NAURUAN DENASALIZATION

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1. Introduction

This is a text-based study of an aspect of Nauruan grammar that relies on publications in Nauruan dating mainly to the first half of the 20th Century, including Kayser's 1936 *Nauru Grammar*, with extensive examples from the 1918 Bible, the 1976 New Testament and other written sources. This type of linguistic study based on written sources is not unique (see 'A Grammatical Sketch of North Tanna' by Kristin Sverredal and 'Preverb Usage in Shawneee Narratives' by David J. Costa)

Any developments in contemporary Nauruan are only briefly touched on as it is not within the scope of the present study.

It is to be noted that the Nauruan reflected in the 1918 Bible and the 1976 New Testament and the language material presented in the 1936 *Nauru Grammar* are taken as valid representations of different registers of spoken Nauruan during the first half of the 20th Century.

The 1918 Bible was a culmination of 19 years of translation work by the American Protestant missionary Philip Adam Delaporte, whose mother-tongue was German, having been born in Worms (Palatine), Germany. Delaporte arrived on Nauru in 1899 and set about learning Nauruan and was helped in his translation endeavours by a number of Nauruans, notably Timothy Detudamo (later Head Chief of Nauru), Jacob Aroi (later Pastor and educator), and Deireragea (later Chief of Anibare District).[1] Apart from short periods of furlough, Delaporte was resident on Nauru from 1899 until he was excluded from returning to Nauru in 1915 while on furlough in the U.S.A. as he was viewed as a German sympathizer. He was in the U.S.A., along with Timothy Detudamo, to complete the translation work and to arrange for the printing of the Bible in the U.S.A.

The 1976 New Testament is attributed to the Roman Catholic missionary Alois Kayser, who served as a missionary to the Nauruan people between 1902 and his death due to mistreatment by Japanese military authorities in 1944. He was absent for a brief period during WWI when he was required to leave Nauru by the Australian occupying forces as he held a German passport – Nauru having been a German colony between 1888 and 1914. As an Alsatian, his mother-tongue was German (Alsatian), and his citizenship status was German until 1918, then, when Alsace-Lorraine reverted to French control, he became a French citizen.

He was recognized as an expert on the Nauruan language and all things Nauruan. His is the 1936 *Nauru Grammar* (apparently handed to the Nauru Administration in 1937).[2]

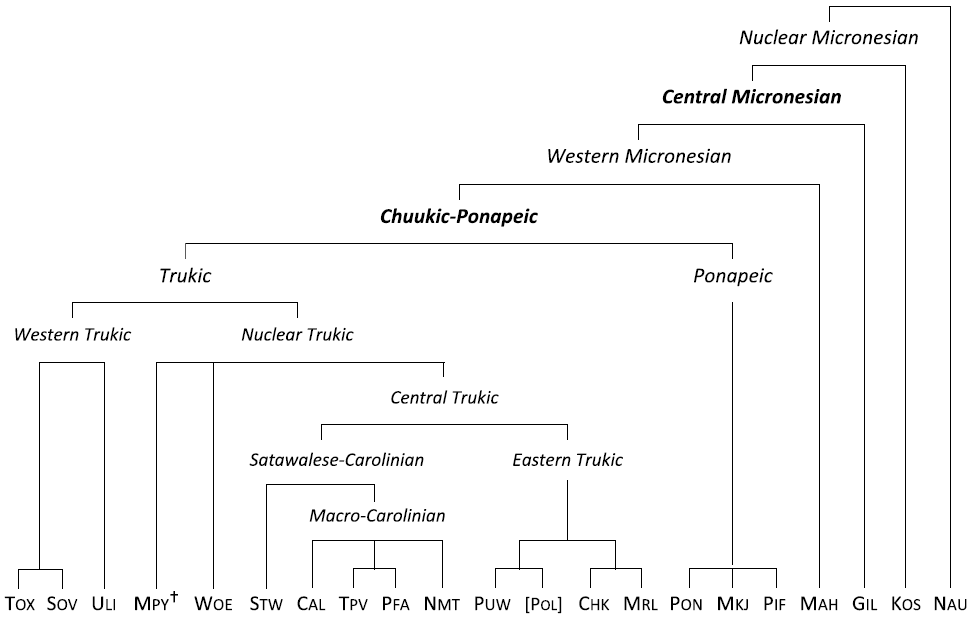
On the basis of Aloys Kayser having died in 1944, I am of the mind that the 1976 New Testament was actually ready for publication prior to the occupation of Nauru by the Japanese in 1942.

There is uncertainty about the dialect situation on Nauru prior to German annexation. What is known is that in pre-colonial days there were two alliances, splitting the island into a northern alliance centered on Ewa (which included at the time what are now Nibok, Uaboe, Baitsi, Ewa, Anetan, Anabar, Ijuw, and half of Anibare districts), and a southern alliance centered on Meneng (which included at the time what are now half of Anibare, Meneng, Yaren, Boe, Buada, Aiwo, and Buada districts), while Denigomodu usually allied itself to Buada. Whether this split was also manifested in a dialectal way is not known. [3]

It is of interest that Delaporte set up his mission in the pre-colonial southern alliance area (Orro hamlet being situated in present day Boe district), while the Catholic mission that Kayser joined was located in the pre-colonial northern alliance area (Ana hamlet being situated in present Ewa district). So, if there were dialectal peculiarities based on the pre-colonial alliance areas, these may have been reflected in the Nauruan of Delaporte and Kayser.

The Nauruan language itself is recognized by linguists as being a divergent member of the Micronesian language family – itself a division of the Oceanic Group within the extensive Austronesian language family. [4] As far back as 1986, Frederick H. Jackson intimated that both Nauruan and Kosraean were the earliest settled outposts of the Micronesian peoples (see: On determining the external relationships of the Micronesian languages.) Researchers have not been able to pinpoint the stepping-stone of the Micronesian peoples other than they came from ‘Near Oceania’ (the Bismark Archipelago and the Solomon Islands, as well as perhaps the northern Vanuatu islands) between 1500 B.C. and 200 B.C. (Petersen 2009:39,40).

Figure 1. Phylogenetic Tree of the Micronesian Languages (from Andrea Bender and Sieghard Beller, 'Ways of counting in Micronesia', Historia Mathematica 56 (2021).



Reference:

CAL = Carolinian
CHK = Chuukese
GIL = Kiribati
KOS = Kosraean
MAH = Marshallese
MKJ = Mokilese
MPY = Mapia (extinct)
MRL = Mortlockese
NAU = Nauruan
NMT = Namonuito
PFA = Pááfang
PIF = Pingelapese
POL = Pollapese (dialect continuum with Puluwatese)
PON = Pohnpeian (including Ngatikese, which is a divergent dialect of Pohnpeian)
PUW = Puluwatese
SOV = Sonsorol
STW = Satawalese
TOX = Tobian
TPV = Tanapag
ULI = Ulithian
WOE = Woleaian

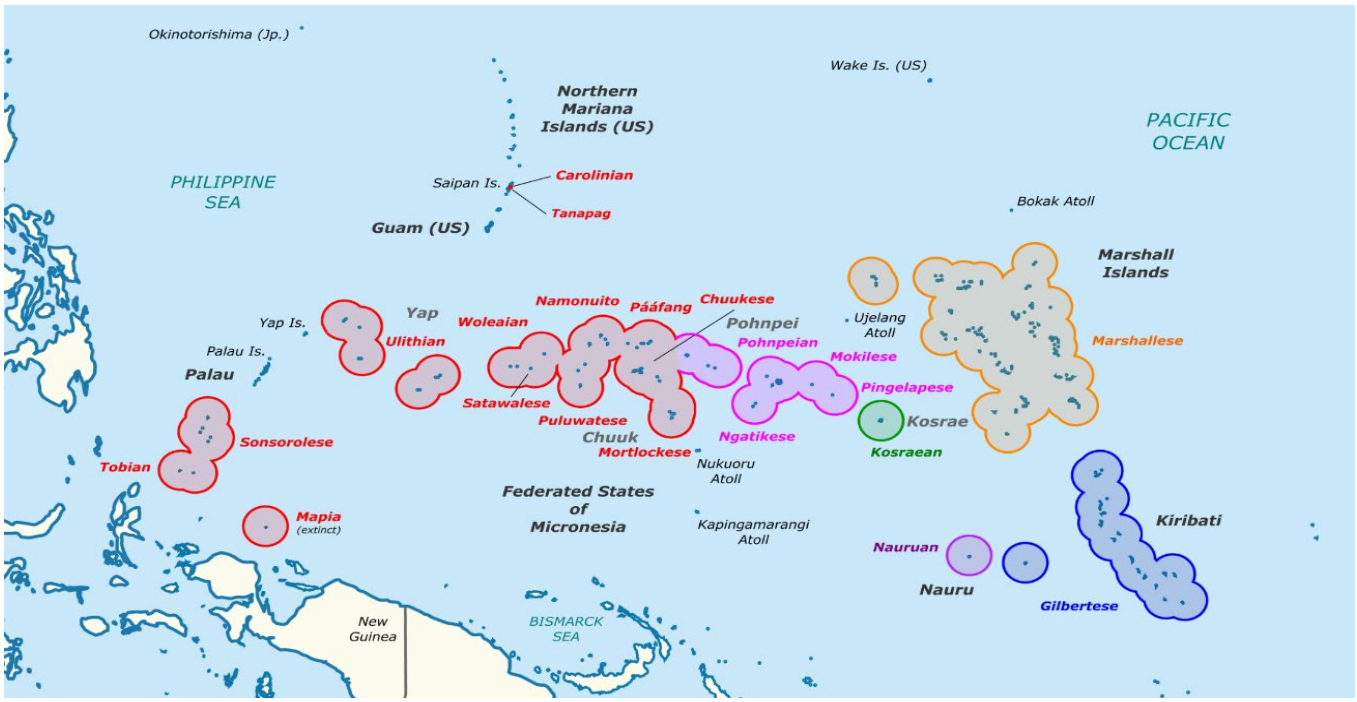
Nauru is a small island of circa 21 square kilometers (8.1 square miles) almost straddling the Equator in the Western Pacific. Until German annexation in 1888 Nauru was a sovereign polity, although it had had a small number of European/American residents of various moral propensities from the 1830s onwards, some wielding considerable power (of a negative kind). Their arrival coincided with the explosion of the Pacific whaling industry and colonial aspirations of the European powers.

The first census taken by the German Imperial authorities enumerated 1,294 islanders. However, the population prior to European contact would have been significantly greater.

Paul Hambruch in his work on Nauru in 1910 (Ergebnisse Der Südsee-Expedition 1908-1910: II. Ethnographie: B. Mikronesien, Band 1: Nauru, 1 Halbband. Hamburg: L. Friederichsen & Co., 1914, pages 59 – 62) obtained the names of some 169 hamlets (homesteads), 40 of which were uninhabited in 1910. So, the pre-contact population may have been nearer 2,500 during drought free periods and barring natural disasters like tsunamis or cyclones.

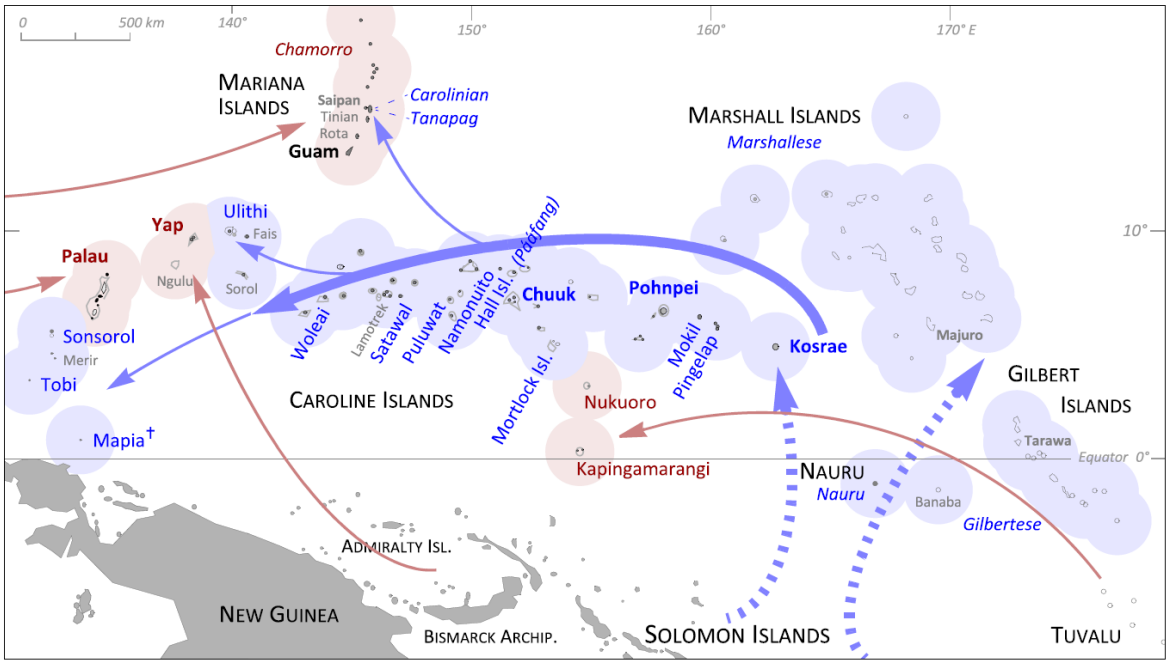
Like all of the Pacific islanders, the population collapsed from the moment of European contact with the introduction of influenza varieties unknow to them, as well as Measles and Smallpox. Similar stories of population collapse have been recorded for the Iles Sous-le-Vent in the the Society Islands (100,000+ down to 8,000 in a fifty year period); the Marquesas Islands (circa 100,000 down to 12,000 in a fifty year period; Hawai'I (300,000+ down to 190,000 in a fifty year period) (see Sodter, F. 1993. L' Histoire Démographique. Atlas de la Polynésie Francaise. Institut français de recherche scientifique pour le développement en coopération; Robert C. Schmitt. 1971. New Estimates of the pre-censal population of Hawaii. The Journal of the Polynesian Society Vol.80, No. 2.); and a similar collapse for the First Nations of the Americas from the moment contact was made with Europeans. These collapses are mostly unrecorded (as with Nauru) as they pre-date sustained European contact.

Map 1. Map of Micronesian Language Family. (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:Tyk)



Map 2. Micronesian Expansion (from Andrea Bender and Sieghard Beller, 'Ways of counting in Micronesia', Historia Mathematica 56 (2021).

Micronesian pathways in blue, non-Micronesian ones in dark red.
Shaded circles indicate a 100-mile radius around islands, the average distance of an overnight voyage (Marck, 1986)



2. Current Status of Nauruan.

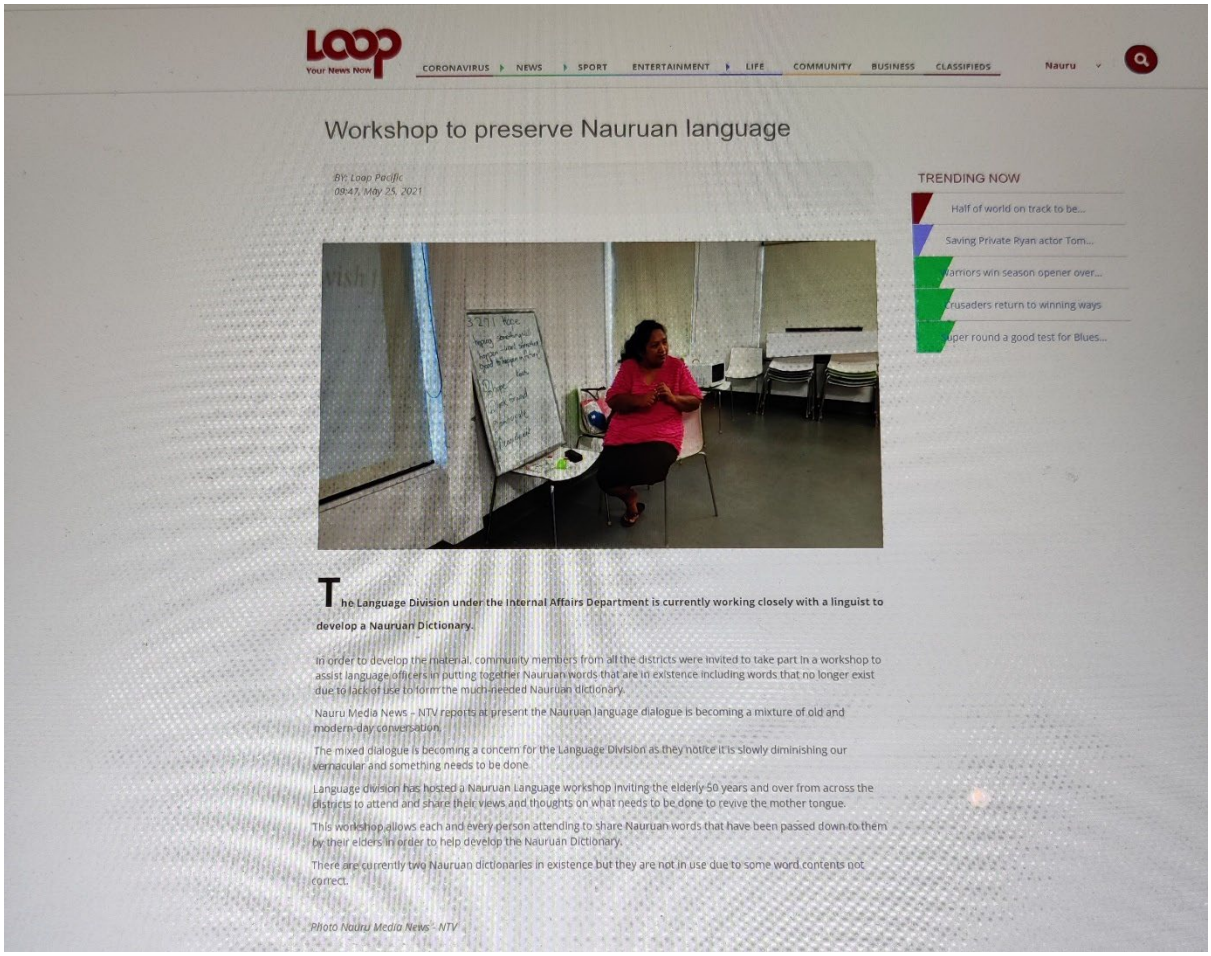
The Nauruan language is confined to the island of Nauru (an independent republic since 1968), though there are small communities of Nauruans in neighbouring countries (Australia, Fiji, New Zealand among others).

No mention of the Nauruan language is made in the Constitution of Nauru (1968), but, as Xavier Barker has noted:

….it appears to have become the de facto official language in government, the media and education without any legal support.
(Barker, Xavier. 2012. English Language as Bully in the Republic of Nauru. In: English Language as Hydra: Its Impacts on Non-English Language Cultures , Rapatahana, Vaughan and Pauline Bunce (editors). Volume 9 of Linguistic Diversity and Language Rights)

Concerns exist that the lack of state sponsorship and the lack of Nauruan language classes in the schools is threatening Nauruan[6], as well as the possibility of the creolization of Nauruan through English. See the May 25, 2021 article at https://www.loopnauru.com/nauru-news/workshop-preserve-nauruan-language-100614

Figure 2. News Report on Concerns for the Nauruan Language.



Loop Your News Now

CORONAVIRUS | NEWS | SPORT | ENTERTAINMENT | LIFE | COMMUNITY | BUSINESS | CLASSIFIEDS | Nauru

Workshop to preserve Nauruan language

BY: Loop Pacific
09:47, May 25, 2021

TRENDING NOW

- Half of world on track to be...
- Saving Private Ryan actor Tom...
- Warriors win season opener over...
- Crusaders return to winning ways
- Super round a good test for Blues...

The Language Division under the Internal Affairs Department is currently working closely with a linguist to develop a Nauruan Dictionary.

In order to develop the material, community members from all the districts were invited to take part in a workshop to assist language officers in putting together Nauruan words that are in existence including words that no longer exist due to lack of use to form the much-needed Nauruan dictionary.

Nauru Media News - NTV reports at present the Nauruan language dialogue is becoming a mixture of old and modern-day conversation.

The mixed dialogue is becoming a concern for the Language Division as they notice it is slowly diminishing our vernacular and something needs to be done.

Language division has hosted a Nauruan Language workshop inviting the elderly 50 years and over from across the districts to attend and share their views and thoughts on what needs to be done to revive the mother tongue.

This workshop allows each and every person attending to share Nauruan words that have been passed down to them by their elders in order to help develop the Nauruan Dictionary.

There are currently two Nauruan dictionaries in existence but they are not in use due to some word contents not correct.

Photo Nauru Media News - NTV

The following figures are taken from the “National Report of Population and Housing – Census 2011”.

At the time of the 2011 census, the population of Nauru was 10,084.

According to the 2011 Census, 93% (circa 9,300) of the population of Nauru gave Nauruan as the language of the home.

Although 66% of the population were enumerated as able to speak English, only 2% of the population gave it as the language of the home.

The 2011 Census also revealed that 6% could speak Kiribati, 2% some form of Chinese, although these languages were not necessarily the language of the home.

95% of the population of those 5 years and older were enumerated as able to speak Nauruan.

The population is projected to peak mid century at 11,000, with a steady decline until the end of the century, with a 2100 estimate of circa 5,800 (UN World Population Prospects 2019).

3. Phonetics.

There are two recent studies in Nauruan phonology.

One is by Kevin Hughes, The Synchronic and Diachronic Phonology of Nauruan: Towards a Definitive Classification of an Understudied Micronesian Language (2020), and the other is by Lev Blumenfeld, Notes on the Synchronic Phonology of Nauruan (2022).

The two studies arrive at analyses that diverge at points.

3.1.1. Description of Phonemes.

Table 1. Nauruan Vowels (adapted from Blumenfeld and Hughes).

	Front	Central	Back
High	i	ɨ	u
Mid	e	ʌ[1]	o
Low	æ	a	

[1] Hughes 2020 uses the IPA symbol [ɐ] for [ʌ]. He considers it to be an allophone of /a/.

Table 2. Nauruan Consonants (adapted from Blumenfeld and Hughes).

		Bilabial				Dental		Dorsal		
		Palatalized		velarized				palatal	Post-velar	labial
Nasal			geminate		geminate	n			ñ, ng[4]	
		m[1]	mm[3]	mw[2]	mmw[3]					
Stop	voiceless	p[1]		pw[2]		t	[tˢi][5]		k	q,qu[6] kw
	voiced	b[1]		bw[2]		d	[dᶻi][5]		g	
Fricative								[j̥][7]		
Approximant								j		w
Rhotic	alveolar					r				
	fortis					ř[8]				

Notes

[1] Hughes uses the IPA notation p^j b^j for the palatalized bilabial stops.

[2] Hughes uses the IPA notation $m^ɣ$ $p^ɣ$ $b^ɣ$ for the velarized bilabial stops. The traditional orthographies use /mw, pw, bw/ but there is no full labialization with the Nauruan velarized stops.

[3] Traditional Nauruan orthographies do not represent geminate nasals. Hughes uses the graphemes /mm:^{j}, mm:^{ɣ}/.

[4] grapheme <ng> is more usual than <ñ> in contemporary Nauruan writings.

[5] Hughes views [t^s] and [d^z] as phonemes, which he transcribes as /tʃ,dʒ/ but Blumenfeld and Kayser view them as allophones of /t,d/ as they only occur with the high vowel /i/ and have a variety of phonetic realizations.

However, they are often written /tsi, dsi/ in orthographies as this is how the 1918 Bible and other literature render them.

[6] The voiceless labial stop /kw/ is often written /q/ word-final, or /qu/ when followed by a vowel in orthographies as this is how the 1918 Bible and other literature render them.

[7] The approximant /j/ is undergoing frication among younder speakers, moving to [ʝ] between vowels and word-finally. Hughes considers it a phoneme, Blumenfeld and Kayser do not.

[8] The 'fortis' /ř/ has been variously described in phonetic terms and has been variously written /dr, ṙ, ɾ, ř/ and is not distinguished from /r/ in the 1918 Bible and 1976 New Testament.

The following description of Nauruan consonant phonemes has been adapted from Hughes 2020:16–100.

/p/ voiceless palatalized bilabial stop
palatalization is neutralized before /i/ and /e/ and word-final
intervocalic lengthening
[p] word-final

/b/ voiced palatalized bilabial stop
palatalization is neutralized before /i/ and /e/ and word-final
intervocalic frication possible [β, $β^j$]
[p] word-final

/pw/ voiceless velarized bilabial stop
velarizarion is neutralized before /o/ and /u/ and word-final
before /a/ and /ɨ/ velarization is variable
intervocalic lengthening

An example of the fluctuation in pronunciation is the verb /pan/ 'speak' which is also spelt /pwan/ because the velarization fluctuates between speakers

/bw/ voiced velarized bilabial stop
velarization is neutralized before /o/ and /u/ and word-final
before /a/ and /ɨ/ velarization is variable
[p] phrase-final

/t/ voiceless dental stop
intervocalic lengthening

The syllable /ti/ as distinct from [t^si] is present in only a mall number of words

/d/ voiced dental stop
[t] phrase final position

/k/ voiceless velar stop
Intervocalic lengthening

/g/ voiced velar stop
variable intervocalic frication to [ɣ]
[k] word/phrase final

The verb /meg/ ‘dwell’ is also spelt /mek/ as /g/ is devoiced word/phrase finally

/kʷ/ voiceless velar stop, secondary labialization
[k] word-final

/m/ palatalized bilabial nasal
palatalization is neutralized before /i/ and /e/ and word-final

/mm/ geminate palatalized bilabial nasal.
palatalization is neutralized before /i/ and /e/
palatilization and gemination are neutralized word-final

/mw/ velarized bilabial nasal
velarization is neutralized before /o/ and /u/ and word-final
velarization is variable before /a/ and /ɨ/

/mmw/ geminate velarized bilabial nasal
velarization is neutralized before /o/ and /u/
velarization is variable before /a/ and /ɨ/
velarization and gemination are neutralized word-final

/n/ apical alveolar nasal

/ŋ/ velar nasal

/w/ rounded labiovelar glide

/j/ palatal approximant
variable light to moderate frication between vowels /j, ʒ, ɕ, ʝ/

/r/ alveolar trill

/ř/ fortis trill

3.2. Some Observations of Sound Changes in Nauruan during the 20th Century.

There are several sound changes and changes in syntax that have occurred in Nauruan since the first half of the 20th Century, which may be due to the influence of English and/or the unfortunate loss of many of the language gatekeepers during the 2nd World War. The governments of Nauru since 1945 have not fostered the development of Nauruan as a literary medium, nor is it taught in Nauruan schools.

Among the changes are:

a. The 'monophthongization' of the dipthongs <ai> <ae> to /e/: i.e.

   'aiquen', one > ekwen

   'aiju', three, > eʄu

   'aijimo', five > eʄimʲo

   'aeiu', seven > eiju

   'ngain', his/her child > ngen

b. The lowering of the dipthongs <ao> <au> to /o/ /ou/

c. The raising of vowels, example:

   'eõ [eʌ] , 'not' > ia [iʌ]

   'eadu' > iadu

   '-en' Perfective Aspect Suffix > -in

d. ‘-ow’ is simplified to /-o/, example:

‘miow’, fear > mio [mʲio]

e. Between high vowels, /j/ (which represents the palatal approximant) is moving towards a fricated allophone, [ʝ]: e.g. ‘aijimo’, ‘five’ > ‘ejimo’, > ‘eʝimo’. Already in pre-contact Nauruan /j/ had a fricated allophonic variant in certain environments (see NG2) - this is spreading.

f. The diphthongs [ia, io, iu] which normally represented an intial non-syllabic vowel glide [i̯a, i̯o, i̯u] have drifted to [ja; jo; ju]; its sound varies from /j/ to the fricated sound [ʝ], which is gaining the upper hand: e.g.

‘ian’, ‘in it’ > [jan/ʝan]

‘ion’, ‘an, a’ > [jon/ʝon]

‘iut’, ‘Guettarda speciosa’ > [jut/ʝut]

ijõñ, below > ʝaŋ [ʝʌŋ]

g. /t/ before the high vowel /i/ represents a voiceless affricate [tˢ], which in contemporary Nauruan has moved towards a voiceless palato-alveolar affricate [ʧ]. /d/ before the high vowel /i/ is the voiced counterpart, [dᶻ], now moving towards [dʒ].

h. The fortis rhotic, which is represented by the glyph /ř/ in Hughes, in contemporary Nauruan appears to be merging with the usual rhotic /r/ in a number of speakers (see Nathan 1973.1:6,7; Hughes 2020:23, 97-100).

i. Syncope and ellision in oft-used words, i.e.

ekegen > eken (what?)
ijegen > ijen (who?)
adaga > ada (why?)
anga > nga (1S.IND)
ngea > nge (E+MED)
nuwaw > waw (go)
bwe nim > nim
bwe dogin > dogin

j. The 3rd Person Plural Dependent Pronoun ‘re’ may be replaced by ‘ar’.

k. A tendency to use the Independent Personal Pronouns instead of the Dependent Personal Pronouns

l. A simplification in phonology can be implied.

While the phonemicization and orthography used by Nathan (1973.1; 1973.2), Hughes (2020), and Blumenfeld (2022) differ, some observations are in order based on their phoneticization.

(a)
One example is the pre-stopped element Nathan noted with / mw (mʸ)/ , the velarized bilabial nasal. (1973.2:482):

word final labialized /mw/ has a strange ‘pre-stopped’ quality, as in

/jibumw/ [jɪbɷ́ᵇm] ‘day’

Nathan appears to have captured the noun in isolation prefixed with the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker /i/.

This contrasts with Hughes’ phonemicization and phoneticization of this word (2020:117,198):

/bʸumʸ/ [bwɨm, bɨm] ‘night, 24-hour day’’

In the 1918 Bible this word is uniformly spelt /bũm/ with or without prefixes and suffixes.

in the 1976 New Testament it is spelt /ibum/ when preceded by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker, and it is spelt variously /bumw-/ or /bum-/ when preceded by other prefixes or expanded with suffixes.

The deduction being, using this example, that the pre-stopped quality of word final /mw ($m^{ɣ}$)/ is no longer a feature (at least with Hughes' informants).

The same situation arises with word final /n/ .

Nathan notes (1973.1:4,9)

/duwon/	*[dúwʌ^{d}n]*	*flesh*
/tuwun/	*[t^{w}úwɷ^{d}n]*	*to be going to*
/kwun/	*[k^{w}ɷ^{d}n]*	*his nail*

Hughes makes no mention of nasal prestopping.

(b)
Another simplification is with regard to nasality and Nauruan vowels.

Kayser notes (NG:1,2):

The vowel 'a' has also a nasal sound similar to the sound of the vowels in the French 'fin, vilain', /fɛ̃/

e.g ã, yes *ãeu, seven* *ãeuer, seven hundred*

In some words this sound of the 'n̓' becomes almost inaudible, while the following vowel takes a nasal tone.

e.g. wa̱n̓a, mine *wa̱n̓ara, theirs (four or more)*

Nathan also notes 1973.1:7,11,12

There is often vowel nasalization associated with the glide [o̯].

/áoe/	*[æ̃o̯ɛ̃]*	*four plants*
/eoáág/	*[ɛ̃o̯æ:k]*	*house*
/eoeeouun/	*[ɛ̃o̯ɛ̃:o̯ɑ̃n]*	*hide, conceal*

Hughes (2020) makes no mention of vowel nasalization.

4. Orthography.

Nauruan does not have an official orthography at present, so citations are mainly given in the writing system of the original source. Although an official orthography was gazetted in the official gazette of Nauru (No.47 of 5th November 1938), it has never been implemented.

There have been several orthographies that have been used to write Nauruan. Among these are:

1. Orthography used by Paul Hambruch in his studies on Nauru in 1910.

2. Orthography used by Aloys Kayser in his 1915 "Nuwawit testament obwe me etsimeduw"

3. Orthography used in the 1918 Bible and related Protestant texts.

4. Orthography used by Aloys Kayser in the journal "Anthropos" and related journals.

5. Orthography used by Aloys Kayser in his "Nauru Grammar".

6. Orthography recommended by the Nauru Administration in 1938.

7. Orthography used by Aloys Kayser as evidenced in the 1976 New Testament.

4.1. Observations on Kayser's orthographies 1936 and 1976.

Kayser in *Nauru Grammar* (1936) was apparently trying to produce a phonetic record of the Nauruan he heard and was taught. This phonetic transcription is never fully described and even within *Nauru Grammar* there are some variations in the spelling of the same word.

With regard to the consonant inventory, his description lacks any sistematic representation of palatalized and velarized consonants or consonant gemination.

There is no systematic description or transcription of the fact that in phrase final position the voicing of oral stops in neutralized:

_b > _p

_d > _t

_g > _k

However, he was aware of the variation in some verbs, i.e.

katuk NG175 to strain > katugien NG175 now he has strained it

He was aware of consonant gemination being a feature, but had no systematic description or transcription of it, as this quote shows (NG2):

> *"In many cases where the word begins with 'm-', this 'm-' is prefaced with a light sound almost amounting to a second, introductory 'm'… "*

Kayser was also aware of a "*fleeting slide vowel*" (NG3) in '*aijimo*', '5', using the spelling '*aijimeo*' in *Nauru Grammar*. This refers to the palatalized 'm' of the Nauruan sound system which Hughes indicates using the IPA glyph /mʲ/.

Kayser was also aware of "*a hardly perceptible gliding vowel u* associated with 'm'." (NG3) *pw, bw, mw* are not systematically used to represent the velarized bilabial and nasal set.

'*qu,kw*' is consistently used for the labialized voiceless velar stop.

The orthography adopted in the 1976 New Testament is a much simplified system.

All diacritics are removed from vowels:

[ä] is converted to [e]

[i̱] is converted to [u]

the velar nasal [ṅ] is converted to [ng]

the labialized voiceless velar stop [q] is invariably converted to [kw]

4.2. Observations on the Orthography of the 1918 Bible.

The orthography reduces the sound system of Nauruan to its absolute necessary parts, but one that a native speaker would be able to contend with, just as an English or French speaker contends with a very outdated and unphonetic/unphonemic writing system.

It uses 8 letters to cover the vowels.

The letter 'a' represents both /a/ and /æ/.

The letter 'ã' represents /e/ or an allophone of /e/.

The letter 'õ' represents [ʌ] in most cases (latest studies treat this as an allophone of /a/).

The letter 'ũ' represents /ɨ/ (a central unrounded vowel) in most cases.

On the consonantal side, there is no apparent evidence of an understanding of velarized versus palatalized consonants, consonant gemination, or word-/phrase final devoicing/simplification.

The letter 'ñ' represents the velar nasal /ŋ/.

The letter 'q', or the combination 'qu' represent the labialized voiceless velar /kw/.

The letter 'j' represents the palatal approximant.

The combination 'tsi' (usually written 'ti' in other orthographies) only appears before /i/.

The 1918 Bible also uses some orthographic conventions, among which:

(a) The translators use ‘ã’ to represent the 3rd Person Singular Dependent Pronoun ‘e’ when the verb phrase it belongs to is impersonal.

(b) The translators use ‘A’ (capital ‘a’) to represent the 1st Person Singular Dependent Pronoun ‘a’ in all of its occurrances.

(c) Where a verb (or a pre-verb word) heads a verb phrase and has no overt person maker , it is by default 3rd Person, but the translators overcompensate by often putting a ‘ghost’ vowel to indicate it is a 3rd Person actor.

When ‘ma’, ‘and’ and ‘bwe’, ‘for’ precede a vowel-initial verb in such a situation, the translators often delete the vowels of ‘ma’ and ‘bwe’ (which is done is spoken Nauruan) but mirror the initial vowel of the verb or any ‘ghost’ vowel the translators decided on including, so you can end up with a ‘dummy’ vowel and a ‘ghost’ vowel, e.g.

mõ õ õmeata, ‘and he brought it out’ , actually represents m’ õmeata

(d) When a final consonant of one word meets an initial consonant of the following word in a phrase, Nauruan usually interposes an epenthetic vowel (a non-syllabic “schwa” vowel /ə/) between the two consonants if the combination of the two consonants is, as Rebecca Morley observed:

“sequences that are disallowed or dispreferred within the language.” (see her article “Consonant Epenthesis”, https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com)

The translators do not consistently show the epenthetic vowel, and when they do it can be represented by ‘e’ or ‘i’ or ‘o’ or ‘õ’.

(e) In the 1918 Bible both the 1st Person Dual Incusive Dependent Pronoun and the 3rd Person Dual Dependent Pronoun are spelt ‘ar’, but there is a difference in vowel quality, i.e.

1st Person Dual Inclusive Dependent Pronoun	-	ar [ær]
3rd Person Dual Dependent Pronoun	-	ar [ʌr]

4.3. Comparative Table of Nauruan Orthographies.

Table 3. Comparative Table of Nauruan Orthographies.

Kayser 1936 Examples from *Nauru Grammar*	Kayser 1976 New Testament	1918 Bible	Hughes 2020
a man, he is clever; abab, to kill	a mwan abab	a man abab	æ emʸæn æbʲæp
a̤ ema̤n, he is dead	a eman	a eman	æ emʲæn
a̲ wa̲ʲa, mine ouwa̲k, big	a wanga ouwak	a waña ouwak	a ~ æ waŋa oæg
a̤ eoqua̤n, sun	a ekwan	a equan	æ kʷæn
ä mäö, my eye bäö, my hand	e meo beo	e meõ beõ	e mʲe- bʲe-
e̤ je̤t, when?	e yet	e jet	e i̤jet
e innen, his mother aiquen, one	e innen aikwen	e inen aiquen	e ine- e-kʷen

e̲ epe̲, stone be̲be̲, light	e epe bebe	e epe bebe	e pʲe-n bʲebe
i ini, coconut	i	i	i ini
i̲ niṅeniṅ,to pull tightly	u nunginung	ũ nũñinũñ	(ɨ)
o bobo, to smell	o bobo	o bobo	o bʸobʸo
o̲ eo̲ṅ, to cry	o eong	õ eõñ	a ijaŋ
ö ebög, water etöṅin, his father gör , to run bäö, my hand öd, go,pass mög, dry	o ebog etongin gor beo od mog	õ ebõk etõñin gõr beõ õd mõg	a ~ ʌ ~ æ ebʲag etaŋ- gar [beɨ/beʌ] ad mʲæg
u dudu, to water	u dudu	u dudu	u dudu
u̟ ü ibügibügi, grass büm, night ṅabu̟na/ṅabüna mu̟ṅana/müṅana ibu̟, ashore	u ibugibugi bum ngabuna mungana ibu	ũ ibũgibũgi bũm ñabũna mũñana ibũ	u ibʸugibʸugi bʸumʸ ŋabʲuna mʸuŋana -
u̲ iju̲, fish	u iu	ũ iũ	u iju
ã ã, yes	---	eh	ẽ
q, qu	kw	q, qu	kw
ṅ	ng	ñ	ŋ

5. Abbreviations Used.

1	First Person
2	Second Person
3	Third person
S	Singular
D	Dual
T	Trial
P	Plural
EXC	Exclusive
INC	Inclusive
ADV	Adverbial prefix ***a-, ana-***
AB	Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker/ ***e-/i-***
ANIM	Animate Class
APPL	Applicative suffix ***-eiy/-ei***
APPL2	Applicative 2 suffix ***-i***
AUG	Augmented form of demonstrative
AV	Avertive ***eniy***
CAUS	Causative Prefix ***ka-/ga-***
CF	Contrafactual
CL	Classifier
COM	Comitative/Instrumental Suffix ***on/õn***
COM2	Comitative/Instrumental Suffix ***-an***
COMM	Command ***ko/kõ***
COMP	Completive ***ogiten***
COND	Conditional Marker
CONS	Construct Particle ***in***
DAT	Dative (indirect object) Form

DEP	Dependent Form of Personal Pronoun
DIR DIR1 – *eda/ida* upwards, out of, from DIR2 – *ädu/edu* downwards, in, back DIR3 – *ata* out, from within, upwards DIR4 – *atu* in,downwards DIR5 – *oda* steady movement forwards DIR6 – *odu* steady movement backwards DIR7 – *ruwei/ruweij/ruweiy* towards the speaker DIR8 – *n* general directional DIR9 – *w* general directional DIR10 -*dan* out, out of from DIR11 -*dun* in, back, from DIR12 – *ruweij*, towards speaker	General Directional Particle **eow, iow** Directional Suffixes
DIST	Distal ***-no/-o̱o***
E	Emphatic Prefix ***nga-/ña-***
FAC	Factitive Prefix ***o-/õ-***
FV	Function Vowel
GPOS	General Possessive Classifier ***a-***
GER	Gerundive
IMM	Immediative ***orren/õren***
INDF	Indefinite Determiner
IND	Indipendent Form of Personal Pronoun
INTENS	Intensifier ***kor/kõr***
LOC	Locative Prefix
MED	Medial ***-na/-o̱a***
MOD	Modal ***nim/nụm***
MUT	Mutual familial relationship ***-i***; same as APPL2
NE NEI NEII NEIII	Non-Emphatic Prefix non-emphatic demonstrative prefix, form I ***min-*** non-emphatic demonstrative prefix, form II ***mu-/mũ-*** non-emphatic demonstrative prefix, form III ***bit-***
NEG	Negative ***eo/eõ***
NP	Numeral Prefix ***a-***
OBJ	Objective Form of Personal Pronoun

OP	Optative ***karenaga***
PERF	Perfective Aspect Suffix ***-en***
PERS	Persistive ***ekeowina***
POS	Possessive Personal Pronoun Suffix
PREI	Pre-Inceptive ***eitiok/eitsiõk***
PROG	Progressive ***oreita/õreita***
PROX	Proximal ***-ne/-o̱e***
RED	Reduplicated Form of Verb/Noun
RPOS	Relative Possessive Classifier ***w-***
SUCC	Successful Outcome Suffix ***wong/wõñ***
SUP	Superlative form
TAG	Question Tag
TEMP	Temporal ***ngag-/ñag-***
UNR	Unrealized Aspect ***inan/nan***
UNR.NEG	Negative Unrealized Aspect ***eab***
V	Verb
VNI	Velar Nasal Intrusion
1976	Nuwawit Testament Etimeduw 1976
HS	Nauru 2007 Demographic and Health
hsd	Nauru Hansard
NB1	Ekegen Ngea Gott Tengeiy Atsin Turita?
NB2	Kaiõt kõ Aen Gott me Tsimor Eko Toki
NG	Nauru Grammar 1936
Nuw	Nuwawit testament obuă 1915
NuwNT	Nuwawit testament etimeduw 1915
PC	Personal Communication
SN	Sprache von Nauru 1914

TNR30	Õten Am Aia Bibel?
TNR31	Õten Am Aia Ino Ijamwan?
TNR32	Eken Ñea Ki Konan Abibõki Amen Bwieni?
TNR 33	Ijen Eow Ñune Eb?
TNR 34	Tune Emaga Iña Edae I Nan Keowen?
TNR35	Bwina Ema Nan Tik Timor?
TNR36	Ken Ngea Monibain Gott?
TNR37	I Ino Añ Konan Ãt Kaganado n Õneien Ikidõ Ñane Towe Itsimor?
PS1979	Petit Skinner Thesis
*	Unattested form or reconstructed form
ø	Morpheme surfaces as zero

6. Overview of the Denasalization Process in Nauruan.

Denasalization is a phonological process that is present in the Nauruan language.

In its simplest description, it is where a word-final dental nasal stop /n/ is affected by a following word-initial high vowel /e/, /i/, whereby a word-final dental nasal stop /n/ is denasalized to a voiceless dental stop /t/.

A second form of denasalization also occurs in Nauruan with a word-initial bilabial nasal stop /m/ being denasalized to a voiced bilabial plosive /b/.

6.1. Origin of Nauruan Denasalization.

At the time of first European contact, denasalization was an already established feature of Nauruan, so how it had developed in earlier forms of Nauruan is a matter of conjecture.

What can be said is that denasalization is a phonological feature of a number of languages (see Botma, 2002).

Among these:

Algic (see Proulx 1984)

Proto-Algonquian	Wiyot	
*ahtsam	tsəb	‘give (food) to’
*meseni	bsəd	‘breast’
*mi:hkesa	bukt	‘snail’
*neqɬ-	díkh-	‘three’

Salishan (see Newman 1977)

Proto-Salish	Northern Puget Sound Salish	
*tsəníɬ	tsədíɬ	‘he’
*nímәɬ	díbəɬ	‘we’

Chemakuan (Andrade 1953)

Chemakum	Quileute	
miʾis	baʾjas	‘four’
hamaʾa	habaʾaʾ	‘tree’
hina	hidaʾ	‘father’

Wakashan (Haas 1972)

Nootka	Nitinat	
niq-	diq-	‘to sew’
mitx^{w}-	bitx^{w}-	‘to turn around’

Other languages where forms of denasalization occur are:

Paicî of New Caledonia;

Southern Min Chinese of south-eastern China and Taiwan;

Southern Nambikwara of Mato Grosso (Brazil);

Zoque of Mexico.

Many linguists who have studied such languages believe that denasalization is the end result of a phonological process whereby pre-stopping developed in certain environments in these particular languages.

This is likely to have been also the origin of Nauruan denasalization.

Geoffrey S. Nathan was engaged in studying Nauruan in the early 1970s and he noted the existence of prestopped nasals in certain situations in the speech patterns of his informants.

One example is the pre-stopped element Nathan noted with / mw (mʷ) / , the velarized bilabial nasal. (Nathan 1973.2:482):

word final labialized /mw/ has a strange 'pre-stopped' quality, as in

/jibumw/ [jɪbɷ́ᵇm] 'day'

Again, Nathan makes the following comment (Nathan 1973.1.5):

In word-final position there exists a set of nasal phones whose phonemic identity has not yet been entirely established. They are 'prestopped nasals' [ᵇm] and [ᵈn]

…[ᵈn] I have no explanation, except that it may somehow be connected with a morphophonemic alternation between /n/ and /t/.

These obervations by Nathan would neatly fit in with the suggested origin of denasalization that other linguists have arrived at, as mentioned previously.

If we use this as a working hypothesis, in an earlier stage of Nauruan partial denasalization developed where word-initial / m / and word-final /n/ followed by a high-vowel went through a partial denasalization resulting in these segments becoming pre-stopped [ᵇm] and [ᵈn].

The pre-stopping then developed into full denasalization, which was observed from the time of first European contact.

As will be discussed, denasalization of /n/ may have been in some instances an optional morphophonetic change and/or influenced by thought-to-speech word association, the stress or lack thereof of the high vowel, and other as yet undefined reasons.

6.2. Denasalization in Contemporary Nauruan.

Contemporary Nauruan appears to be undergoing a change in how denasalization is triggered.

Kevin Hughes in his 2020 work "The Synchronic and Diachronic Phonology of Nauruan: Towards a Defifinitive Classification of an Understudied Micronesian Language" makes the following statement:

The Nauruan phoneme /n/ is an apical alveolar nasal. It is realized as [n] in all environments, though it may freely vary with the voiceless stop [t] where it occurs as one of several word-final suffixes of the shape /-n/, including the 3sg possessive suffix, the genitive (or 'construct') suffix, and the passive verb suffix. Speakers appear unable to identify what, if anything, determines the choice between word-final [n] and [t] in the relevant words. Though some consultants have suggested that one or the other seems more or less correct in a given context, these opinions vary from speaker to speaker." (page 80)

So it appears that in Contemporary Nauruan word-final /n/ is being regularly denasalized to /t/ at word-end, to the point that many are uncertain when a final /n/ should be pronounced with a final /t/ or a final /n/.

There are probably several catalysts to this uncertainty.

1. Nauruan language instability has been accelerated by the lack of Government support through the schooling system upwards to promote a 'standard' Nauruan as a spoken and written form, as has been achieved by other relatively small language communities (Euskara Batua in Euskadi, 'Ōlelo Hawai'i in Hawaii, Cymraeg Byw in Wales etc).

2. A severe set-back was the loss of the gatekeepers of Nauruan custom and language during the 2nd Word War and therefore transmission to succesive generations. At the outbreak of the war in the Pacific in 1940 the Nauruan people numbered 1800 (Report to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of Nauru during the year 1940, page 25). The 1933 Census enumerated 65 Nauruans aged 60 years and above (4 % of the population of 1540). By 1948, out of 1448 Nauruans only 15 Nauruans (1%) were aged 60 years and above (Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics Bulletin No.7, 1934; Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations 1949). Following the invasion and occupation of Nauru by the Imperial Japanese Forces on 26th August 1942, a horrendous situation befell the Nauruans. Mistreatment and food shortages were daily sufferings until liberation by the Australian armed forces on 13th September 1945 . This was compounded by the forced removal of 1200 Nauruans by the Imperial Japanese Forces to the Chuuk archipelago in 1943 where mistreatment and starvation resulted in a 38% fatality rate. (Tanaka 2010)

3. The pre-existent morphophonetic process whereby a word-final /n/ followed by a dental plosive undergoes regressive assimilation.

Examples:

1.
eroe[7] būriõun[8,9] bwe[10] dõgi**t**[11,12,13,14] **d**eden[15] ñune[16] Ge 48:17
3S.DEP+heavy heart+3S.POS for reason+CONS manner+CONS E+PROX
his heart was grieved because of the manner of this thing

2.
ngaga[17] ro[18] ogin ouwidu me ro[19] roudan ea**t**[30,14,68g] **t**uwen[20] ngaena[21]
TEMP+MED 3P.DEP finish+CONS mock & 3P.DEP remove+DIR8 on+CONS flesh+3S.POS E+CL16[1]+MED
gawiden[22] opwopwar[19] Mark 15:20 1976
garment+3S.POS 3S.DEP+purple
when they had finished mocking him they removed from his body the garment of purple of his

3.
aikwen[23] aura[24] edonga **t**[13,14] **d**etaro mibuna[25] memag Ac 1:14 1976
one GPOS+3P.POS persevere CONS prayer NEI+ANIM.P+MED all
it was one the persistence of prayer of all those ones

4.
ea**t**[30,14,68c] **d**uwo[20] … bwe dogi**t**[12,13,14] **t**uwen[20] ngeiy[7,26] ngea[16]
on+CONS flesh+1S.POS for reason+CONS flesh+3S.POS E+3S.IND E+MED
eiy[7,27] bita[16] ecclesia Col 1:24 1976
3S.IND NEIII+MED ecclesia
by my body … on behalf of his body which is the ecclesia

4. The tendency for all 'loaned' consonant-initial words to trigger denasalization when preceded by a word-final /n/

5. The tendency for the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker to lose its vocalic quality when attached to a consonant-initial noun in a denasalized phrase leaving, acoustically, a word-final /t/ followed by a consonant or epenthetic non-syllabic glide vowel (schwa) and consonant.

Examples:

5.
bai**t**[28] kiṙiṙa NG64
object+CONS AB+CAUS+adorn
object for the adorning

6.
oror i**t**[28] kumo NG193
wall CONS AB+pig
fence for pigs NG193

7. The pre-existing parameters for individualizing denasalization (see Section 8.1.)

8. The spread of denasalization in word-final position by analogical levelling.

7. Denasalization of Word-Initial Bilabial Nasal Stop / m /.

There appears to be evidence that in an earlier stage of Nauruan partial denasalization developed when word-initial / mw ($m^{ɣ}$) / was followed by a high-vowel, going through a partial denasalization producing a prestopped [^{b}m]. The prestopping then developed into full denasalization, which was observed from the time of first European contact.

Table 4. Possible development of Nauruan denasalization of initial velarized bilabial nasal stop / mw ($m^{ɣ}$) /:

Older Nauruan	Recent Nauruan	More Recent Nauruan	Modern Nauruan
mweti-	mwetsi-	^{b}mwetsi-	bwetsi-

Classifier for long, flexible objects (Classifier 7[18/19]

Other examples of doublets:

mweij-, the Classifier for heaps of excrement, dung hills (Classifier 25[31])

versus

buij(a), 'excrement'

metsimetsi, 'warn;admonish'

versus

betsibetsi, 'keen, alert'

7.1. Denasalization of min- singular demonstrative set to fom bit- singular demonstrative set.

The present author also suggests that a similar evolution through denasalization resulted in the doublet found in the demonstrative regime of Nauruan.

In the demonstrative regime of Nauruan, there is a simple form of the demonstrative (the General Demonstrative Set) devoid of any prefixes, which was the original demonstrative; but there are also four separate prefixes that have over time fused with the simple forms, resulting in a possible five forms of a demonstrative.

There is one emphatic prefix /ña-, nga-/, and there are three non-emphatic prefixes

min- or mit-
bit-
mũ-

The emphatic prefix element /ña-, nga-/ is found in various parts of the Oceanic family (Kiribati, North Ambrym, Mekeo among others) as an emphasizing or focusing element.

Of the three non-emphatic prefixes, the non-emphatic prefix that is in question is based around the fusion of the word /min/, ‘thing’, with the simple demonstrative set.

The language of Satawal Atoll (western Caroline Islands, Federated States of Micronesia), a Micronesian sister language to Nauruan, has also developed a series of demonstratives incorporating /min/, ‘thing’, with the base forms of its demonstrative set.

Table 5. Some Satawalese 'min' demonstratives (adapted from Roddy 2007:67)

***min*- + demonstrative**	**Meaning**
min-ne	something proximal to speaker in view of speaker and hearer
min-na	something proximal to the hearer in view of speaker and hearer
min-i-we	a definite object in mind but not in view of speaker or addressee
min-i-ka or mini-kka	de-emphasized objects near speaker
min-aan	that which is over there

In the case of Nauruan, the singular fused forms are used for animate and inanimate subjects, whereas the plural fused forms are only used for inanimate subjects (Kayser's Nauru Grammar p.31).

For plural animate subjects, Nauruan developed separate fused sets based on gender-focus and number, using different elements .

For a fuller description of the Nauruan demonstrative system you may wish to refer to the following study by the present author: Nauruan Demonstratives.
https://www.academia.edu/108407672/Nauruan_Demonstratives_Revised

Table 6. Nauruan General Demonstratives with the fused element /min/, singular set.

Proximity	Simple form of the Demonstrative, Singular (General Demonstrative Singular Set)	Augmented form of the General Demonstrative Singular Set	Simple Demonstrative fused with the element /min/ (Singular Non-Emphatic /min/ Set)	Meaning
Proximal	une	eune, iune	mitune	this (animate/inanimate) here
			Syncopated Form	
			(unattested)	
Medial	(una – unattested, but presumed present in an earlier form of Nauruan) ia[1]	(euna, iuna – unattested, but presumed present in an earlier form of Nauruan)	mituna	that (animate/inanimate) there
			Syncopated Form	
			mita	
Distal	uno	euno, iuno	mituno	that (animate/inanimate) yonder/over there
			Syncopated Form	
			(unattested)	

Note:

[1] There is internal evidence of a historical form *una

Table 7. Nauruan General Demonstratives with the fused element /min/, plural set :

Proximity	Simple form of the demonstrative, Plural (General Demonstrative Plural Set)	Augmented form of the General Demonstrative Plural Set	Simple Demonstrative fused with the element /min/ [1,2] (Plural Non-Emphatic /min/ Set)	Meaning
Proximal	ane	Not Present	minane	these (things) here
			Syncopated Form	
			mane	
Medial	ana	Not Present	minana	those (things) there
			Syncopated Form	
			mana	
Distal	ano	Not Present	minano	these (things) yonder/over there
			Syncopated Form	
			mano	

Note:

1

The non-fused plural forms were still in use in the first part of the 20th Century to mean 'these/those (particular) things here/there' etc. See Kayser's Nauru Grammar, page 31: *min ana*, 'those things there'.

2

The plural forms have low frequency in the written sources, as do the syncopated forms

Although at fist glance the singular forms of the Non-Emphatic min- Demonstrative Set seem irregular, the forms can be explained through the process of /n/ denasalization, as min- has a word-final dental nasal stop /n/. This second form of denasalization is discussed in Section 8 onwards.

Two possible developments are given here for the Proximal and Distal Forms.

Figure 3. Development of the Singular Proximal Form of the Non-Emphatic /min/ Form.

min + in (Construct Suffix) + une

↓

min in une

↓

mit in une (by denasalization)

↓

mitune (by syncope)

OR

min + iune (Augmented Singular Proximal General Demonstrative)

↓

mitiune (by denasalization)

↓

mitune (by syncope)

The development *miteune* to *mitune* can be explained by the fact that where a word-final /n/ is followed by a diphthong in which the first element is a non-syllabic glide high vowel, word-final /n/ is denasalized to /t/ but the non-syllabic glide vowel is deleted. This morphophonetic change is touched on in this study (see Section 9.6.).

Figure 4. Development of the Singular Distal Form of the Non-Emphatic /min/ Form.

min + in (Construct Suffix) + uno

↓

min in uno

↓

mit in uno (by denasalization)

↓

mituno (by syncope)

OR

min + iuno (Augmented Singular Distal General Demonstrative)

↓

mitiuno (by denasalization)

↓

mituno (by syncope)

The development *miteuno* to *mituno* can be explained by the fact that where a word-final /n/ is followed by a diphthong in which the first element is a non-syllabic glide high vowel, word-final /n/ is denasalized to /t/ but the non-syllabic glide vowel is deleted. This morphophonetic change is touched on in this study (see Section 9.6.).

Figure 5. Development of the Singular Medial Form of the Non-Emphatic /min/ Form.

min + in (Construct Suffix) + una

↓

min in una

↓

mit in una (by denasalization)

↓

mituna (by syncope)

↓

mita (by syncope)

OR

min + iuna (Presumed Augmented Singular Medial General Demonstrative)

↓
m*itiuna* (by denasalization)
↓
mituna (by syncope)
↓
mita (by syncope)

The development *miteuna* to *mituna* can be explained by the fact that where a word-final /n/ is followed by a diphthong in which the first element is a non-syllabic glide high vowel, word-final /n/ is denasalized to /t/ but the non-syllabic glide vowel is deleted. This morphophonetic change is touched on in this study (see Section 9.6.).

Once the /min-/ set of the General Demonstrative had been formed, at a later stage it was affected by denasalization of the initial /m/ explaining the doublet in the demonstrative regime of a /min/ singular non-emphatic set and a /bit/ singular non-emphatic set.

Table 8. Nauruan Demonstratives with the fused element /min/, singular set, after undergoing denasalization of the word-initial /m /:

Proximity	Simple form of the Non-Emphatic /min/ Demonstrative	Partial Denasalization of word-initial /m/	Denasalized Form	Meaning
Proximal	mitune	[b]mitune	bitune	this (animate/inanimate) here
			Syncopated Form	
			tune	
Medial	mituna	[b]mituna	bituna (unattested)	that (animate/inanimate) there
	Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form	
	mita	[b]mita	bita	
Distal	mituno	[b]mituno	bituno	that (animate/inanimate) yonder/over there
			Syncopated Form	
			tuno	

A word-check of the Nauruan Bible of 1918 and the New Testament of 1976 shows that there are no occurrances of the singular /min/ forms, indicating that even in the first part of the 20th Century they were rarely used, the denasalized /bit/ forms having overtaken them in usage.

8. Denasalization of Word-Final Dental Nasal Stop /n/.

Using the previously stated conjecture, that is, that in an earlier stage of Nauruan partial denasalization developed where word-final /n/ was followed by a word initial high-vowel: the partial denasalization produced a pre-stopped [^{d}n]. The pre-stopping then developed into full denasalization, which was observed from the time of first European contact.

Partial denasalization was still in evidence in the Nauruan studied by Nathan in the early 1970s. Nathan notes (1973.1:4,9)

/duwon/	*[dúwʌ^{d}n]*	*flesh*
/tuwun/	*[t^{w}úwɷ^{d}n]*	*to be going to*
/kwun/	*[k^{w}ɷ^{d}n]*	*his nail*

Table 9. Development of Nauruan denasalization of word-final dental nasal stop /n/:

Older Nauruan	Recent Nauruan	More Recent Nauruan	Modern Nauruan
eraban iduwen	eraba^{d}n iduwen	eraba^{t}n iduwen	erabat iduwen

'obey the truth'

8.1. Non-Universality of Denasalization of Word-Final Dental Nasan Stop /n/ Followed by a Word-Initial High Vowel.

As mentioned at Section 6, denasalization of a word-final dental nasal stop /n/ is expected when the following word has a word-initial high vowel /e, i/, the dental nasal stop /n/ being changed to a voiceless dental stop /t/.

However, this does not occur in all environments, and even within those environments that usually do or do not not manifest denasalization, some variation is encountered.

As an example, denasalization is not usually triggered when a word-final /n/ is followed by the 3rd Person Singular Dependent Pronoun /e/.

Examples:

7.
enij ago[29] eñame[45] io**n** **e**mequõr itũrit[30] ãita agem Ge 26:10
AV CF AB+person INDF 3S.DEP+lie by+CONS female+MED spouse+2S.POS
had a man almost lain with your wife

8.
omo eken[31] aeõ[24] oija aw[32] ea[31,32c] aeõ[24] oija[32a] eñame[45] io**n**
3S.DEP+good INDF+CL20[21] GPOS+1S.POS give to+2S.OBJ than GPOS+1S.POS give+to+3S AB+person INDF
ekae[33] Ge 29:19
3S.DEP+different
my giving to you is better than my giving to a different person

9.
io**n**[34] **e**mi erenimi ion , mi io**n**[34] **e**mi erenimi ion Ge 40:5
INDF 3S.DEP+dream AB+dream INDF & INDF 3S.DEP+dream AB+dream INDF
the one dreamt a dream and the other dreamt a dream

10.
enim eko[35] eñame[45] io**n** **e**metan eat[68g] eñan[41]
3S.DEP+MOD be.not AB+person INDF 3S.DEP+go.out+DIR8 on+CONS AB+place
ean[68b] quaeiut[36] ibũm Ex 16:29
on+CONS CAUS+seven+CONS AB+day
let no man go out from (his) place on the seventh day

11.
ñaga**n** **e**dairinaijat eponñame Je 51:7
therefore 3S.DEP+mad+PERF AB+nation
the nations have acted crazy

However, there are other examples where denasalization is present in such an environment.

Examples:

12.
ñaga**t** **ã**[37] pan ñeijin[38] ũge[58] iat buch ñaran[39] an ake Jehova Nu 21:14
therefore 3S.DEP speak E+CL11[7]+ say in+CONS book E+CL30[3]+ GPOS+3S.POS fight Jehovah
therefore it is told the word that is spoken in 'The book of the wars of Jehovah'

13.
ñaga**t** **ã** ij egen[42] ñamwarina[40] etañ[44] bwe Gilgal Jos 5:9
therefore 3S.DEP chose name+CONS E+CL23[22]+MED AB+place for Gilgal
one chose the name of that place as Gilgal / therefore that place was called Gilgal/that place was named Gilgal

14.
ñaga**t** **ã** eken[43] kaiwedurei 2Sa 23:19
therefore 3S.DEP make+PERF captain+3T.POS
therefore he was made their captain

15.
õte**t** **ã** nim erowiow eb[44] bwe dõgũm[12]? Job 18:4
how 3S.DEP MOD leave+DIR AB+land for reason+2S.POS
how should one abandon the land /how should the land be abandoned because of you?

16.
ñaga**t** **ã** oquenõnõ egirowin Jehova Je 6:11
therefore 3S.DEP FAC+full+COM+1S.OBJ anger+CONS Jehovah
therefore one has filled me with the anger of Jehovah / thereore I have been filled with the anger of Jehovah

17.
eiñõñ io**t** **ã** kaiot eow i Rama Matt 2:18
voice INDF 3S.DEP hear DIR at Rama
a voice was heard in Ramah

18.
ñait esel io**t** **ã** waij Mark 11:2
child+CONS donkey INDF 3S.DEP tie.up
a colt of a donkey one has tied it up / a tied up donkey's colt

This may indicate that there are certain paraments in which the seemingly instantaneous transference of thought to speech is individualized by the speaker. In these cases, it may be that in the instantaneous process of thought-to-speech a more closely connected word phrase is conjured up in the mind of the speaker overiding more usual speech patterns. As an aside worth further investigation, Examples 12 to 18 all have an 'indefinite' 3rd person actor, and examples 17 and 18 are topicalized phrases.

An interesting comparison may be found with the 'liaisons' that are encountered in the French language.

Studies have shown that several things operate with French speakers as to whether a 'liaison' is implemented as some are mandatory, others are prohibited, and others are preferred but not absolutely necessary, and a small number have arisen in Modern French independently of Middle French and are mandatory/preferred.

Leaving aside the 'liaisons' that have arise independently in Modern French, 'liaisons' originate where a sound present in certain syntactic environments in Middle French (the form/s of French spoken between the 14th and 16th centuries) ceased to be pronounced, except in certain environments, by the end of the Middle French period. The earlier pronunciation has been preserved in the orthography used for Modern French, just as the English writing system has preserved (in many instances) the pronunciation of late Middle English.

One example in French is the final /s/ of 'tous', 'all', which is now silent when a noun phrase follows it, but the pronunciation of the /s/ 'resurfaces' when 'tous' is not followed by a noun phrase. This is a mandatory liaison.

Another example is the final /s/ to signify that a noun is plural and is also attached to the definite article (les) to indicate that the noun that follows it is plural. This is now silent, but the sound 'resurfaces' when the plural definite article is followed by a vowel-initial noun or one with an initial /h/. This is a mandatory liaison.

With 'et', 'and', the /t/ is always silent. This is an impossible liaison and a faux-pas (reader beware of the silent consonants!) if the /t/ is pronounced.

There are certain other final consonants that are normally silent in adjectives but that 'resurface' in certain situations. Some are optional, some are preferred, and if used correctly and consistently this type of liaison is interpreted as 'educated' French (or to others as 'pretentious').

Similarly, the seemingly instantaneous transference of thoughts to speech in Nauruan may have influenced some outcomes of denasalization within certain parameters.

9. Denasalization of Word-Final /n/ followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker /e/ .

All classes of words with word-final /n/ undergo denasalization before the Nominal Prefix/ Absolute Marker.

Before descussing the denasalization process triggered by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker, a few preliminary observations are appropriate regarding the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker. There are several outcomes when the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is added to nouns.

9.1. Observations on the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker /e/.

1. When the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is attached to a consonant-initial noun whose first syllable contains the vowels /a/ or /e / or /o/ or /õ/ , the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is /e/, i.e.:

Example:

e-bõk (1918 Bible) e-bog (1976 New Testament)	water

2. When the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is attached to a consonant-initial noun whose first syllable contains the vowels /i/ /ũ/ /u/, the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is heightened from /e/ to /i/, i.e.:

ibi	placenta, after-birth
ibũgibũgi	grass
ibũm	day (24-hour period), night
ibwija	excrement
imin	thing
ipudu	fall, birth
ipudutũbwin	sword
itsi	frigate bird
iwi	louse

3. The are a number of anomalies, where the Nominal Prefix is /i/ instead of the expected /e/, i.e.:

ibaka	evil, badness
ima	death
io	tamano tree [ío Kayser 1928:361, iɟo, phonetic rendering in Hughes 2020:117]
itema	sign, mark
itouba	fishing rod

4. When the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is attached to a /j/ consonant-initial noun, the
Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is /i/.

<j>is the grapheme adopted in the 1918 Bible for the palatal approximant represented by <y> in English orthography.

<y> is the grapheme adopted in the 1976 New Testament.

Examples:

ijeiji	food, meal
ijibar	razor
ijited	sea
ijor	post, pillar
ijũb	pit, ditch

5. When the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is attached to a vowel-initial noun whose initial vowel is /e /, the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker surfaces as 'zero' in current orthographies, i.e.:

e + eb > Ø + eb	land
e + eñan > Ø +eñan	place
e + ãn > Ø +ãn	woman, female
e + eñin > Ø + eñin	wind
e+ ãe > Ø + ãe	fire

At the time Geoffrey Nathan studied Nauruan in the early 1970s, these /e/ initial words realized the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker as a non-syllabic glide vowel i̯, i.e.:

i̯ɛ:n	woman, female [Phonetic rendering in Nathan 1973.1:7]
i̯ei̯	fire [Phonetic rendering in Nathan 1973.2.:485)

6. When the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is attached to a vowel-initial noun whose initial
vowel is /i/ or /u/ or /ũ/, the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker surfaces as 'zero' in current orthographies, i.e.:

e + iaõ > i + iaõ > Ø + iaõ	light
e + iow > i + iow > Ø +iow	peace
e + iũ > i + iũ > Ø +iũ	fish

At the time Geoffrey Nathan studied Nauruan in the early 1970s, these vowel initial words also realized the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker as a non-syllabic glide vowel i̯, i.e.:

i̯iʌ	fish [Phonetic rendering in Nathan 1973.1:11]
iːʸɨ	fish [Phonetic rendering in Nathan 1973.2.486]

7. When the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is attached to a vowel-initial noun whose initial
vowel is /a/ or /o/ or /õ/ the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker assumes the quality of a non-syllabic glide vowel e̯, i.e.

e + a_	>	e̯a_
e + o_	>	e̯o_
e + õ_	>	e̯õ_

In current orthographies this non-syllabic glide vowel is written as /e/.

8. When the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is attached to a noun with initial diphthong the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is /e/, i.e.

e + oa_	>	eoa_

9.2. Variant spellings in the 1918 Bible and the 1976 New Testament.

In line with Nauruan morphology, when a vowel-initial noun whose initial vowel is /a/ or /o/ or /õ/, the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker assumes the quality of a non-syllabic glide vowel e̯ (represented by /e/ in current orthographes) , i.e.

/añame, angame/ 'man, person, people etc' > e̯añame

/añõg, angog/ 'word' > e̯añõg

/oniñ, oning/ 'child, youth' > e̯oniñ

However, there are a number of variant spellings in the 1918 Bible and 1976 New Testament.

(a)

In the 1918 Bible /añame/, 'man, person, people etc', is realized as though its base were /ñame/, i.e.

19.
eiñōñ it eñame[45] Ex 32:17
sound CONS AB+ person
the noise of the people

20.
an ñame[45] 1Ki 8:66
GPOS+3S.POS person
his people

21.
nat[46] agada[32a] gai**t** **e**ñame ñea õeko[58] wout etōñin mi inen Deu 27:16
UNR rest.on+to3S woe+CONS AB+person E+MED FAC+be.not value+CONS father+3S.POS & mother+3S.POS
it will rest on him the woes of a man who makes to be nothing the value of his father and mother / woe to the man who treats with contempt his father and mother

22.
emaen[47] it eñame 1Ki 16:21
INDF+CL21[4] CONS AB+person
half of the people

23.
egirow it eñame Pr 6:34
anger CONS AB+person
the anger of a man

In the 1976 New Testament it is spelt /angame/ and /engame/ when prefixed with the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker, otherwise /angame/.

24.
r[17a] ebwaken mungana[48] bwabwait tuwet[20] engame, me ri[18a] t[17a] eke[43]
3P.DEP many+PERF NEII+MED.P object+RED+CONS flesh+CONS AB+person & 3P.DEP only act.as
ta[18] aikwen tuwet angame 1Co 12:20 1976
only one flesh+CONS AB+person
they are now many those body members, but they act as one (human) body

25.
t[17a] anga[26a] a eke[43a] anga angame iot amen rieow eat[68c] edogor Ga 2:18 1976
only 1S.IND 1S.DEP make 1S.IND person INDF male.for transgress on+CONS AB+law
I make myself a transgressor by means of the law

(b)

The noun / añõg/ ‘word’ is realized both as /añõg/ and /eñõg/ in the 1918 Bible. When prefixed with the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker, it is always realized as /eñõg/.

26.
bwe wo nim erabat eñõg ñeijine[38] Deu 24:22
for 2S.DEP MOD obey AB+word E+CL11[7]+PROX
so that you should obey this word

27.
õten ackõrit eñõg ñan[48] eimwirara[33]! Job 6:25
how force+CONS AB+word E+MED.P+ right+SUP
how force of words that are very upright / how forcible are words of uprightness

28.
õten, etsimine[35] tokit eñõg ñan[48] etsimine[35,60] woun? Job 16:3
TAG 3S.DEP+exist end+CONS AB+word E+MED.P+ 3S.DEP+exist worth+3S.POS
is there an end of the words that have value? / is there the end of words that there exists it worth

29.
bwe dõgin eiñõñit eñog ñea ouwak[33] Da 7:11
for reason+3S.POS sound+CONS AB+word E+MED great
because of the sound of a great word

30.
bwe Gott enimõ baida men ororit eñog Co 4:3
for God 3S.DEP+MOD open eye+CONS wall+CONS AB+word
that God should open a door of utterance

31.
añõg ana[48] He 13:22
word MED.P
those words

32.
edogor õbwe ei[26a,27] añõg an amwa ogiten kaiot 1John 2:7
AB+law old 3S.IND word GPOS+3S.POS 2P.DEP COMPL hear
the old law is a word belonging to ‘you had heard it’
[The structure of this sentence seems to be an idiom]

In the 1976 New Testament it is spelt /engog/ when prefixed with the Nominal Prefix/Absolute , otherwise /angog/

33.
ngabuna[25] obong yungora ro[49] kaiyotiet[50] engog Matt 11:5 1976
E+ANIM.P+MED 3S.DEP+closed.up ear+3P.POS 3P.DEP hear+PERF AB+word
The deaf are now hearing

34.
bwe[18] eareen[33] angog eiyine[38] Mark 14:27 1976
for 3S.DEP+write+PERF word CL11[7]+PROX
for this word has already been written / for it is written

35.
wonga[51] eamen oduwen angog Ac 1:8 1976
RPOS+1S.POS male.for FAC+true word
my witnesses

(c)

There is a small number of words that Kayser in his Grammar (1937) and the 1976 New Testament interpret as having a word-initial diphthong.

Examples:

Kayser		1918 Bible
oag	'house, dwelling'	wak
oea	'ten (animate enumeration)'	waea
oereri	'instruct'	wereri
oeron	'cloud' 'heaven'	weron
oeiyo	'stand'	weijo

/oag/ is uniformly spelt /oag/ in the 1976 New Testament, and with the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker as /eoag/.

However, it is universally spelt /wak/ in the 1918 Bible, and with the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker as /ewak/

Kayser assigns the /e/ form of the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker to /oag/, i.e.

35a.
eoag iot etabuike r'[17a] oreita ririṅ NG195
AB+house INDF AB+wood 3P.DEP PROG do
they are fashioning a house of timber
[Kayser's rendition: it is a house out of timber they are building]

In the 1918 Bible 'ewak' is used consistently

9.3. Denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker attached to a consonant-initial noun.

_n + e/C_ > _t + e/C_

_n + i/C_ > _t + i/C_

Examples:

36.
oagit etabuike NG14
house+CONS AB+wood
house for timber, timbershed NG14

37.
muid ebawo NG15
mouth+CONS AB+shark
the shark's tooth

38.
tamuitöt epe̲ NG179
strike+COM AB+stone
strike with a stone

39.
wurit ekarawä NG30, 193
vessel+CONS AB+toddy
coconut shell for toddy, toddy-shell

40.
egen katiju**t**[36] **e**kaw Ge 2:14
name+CONS CAUS+three+CONS AB+river
the name of the third river

41.
õ[49] weijo itañin wõn kamele itirũrũ**t** **e**bõken eren[52] Ge 24:30
3S.DEP stand by+CONS RPOS+3S.POS camels alongside+CONS AB+water+CONS drink
he stood by his camels alongside the well

42.
ã irieduen itirũrũ**t** **e**medena ñea oñow Ephrath Ge 35:19
3S.DEP dig+DIR2+PERF alongside+CONS AB+way E+MED 3S.DEP+go+DIR Ephrath
she was then buried alongside the way that goes to Ephrath

43.
rõ[49] weijo ijõñi**t** **e**rũrũ**t** **e**towedũdũ Ex 19:17
3P.DEP stand under+CONS AB+side+CONS AB+mountain
they stood below the sides of the mountain /at the base of the mountain

44.
wo nan õpaeoiõ**t** **e**rũrũ**t** **e**karũn ñarana[39] gold Ex 25:24
2S.DEP UNR FAC+go.around+APPL+COM AB+side+CONS AB+border E+CL30[3]+MED gold
you will encircle its sides with a golden border

45.
aijũra[53] ran candelabrum atsin ea**t**[68g] **e**rũrũt eran[54] Ex 5:32
NP+three+CL30[3] branch+CONS candelabra from+CONS on+CONS AB+side+CONS INDF+30[3]
three branches of the candelabra out from one of its sides

46.
e nim ijababadu ewak, ma apen[55], me ran , ma arobu**t**[55] **e**rũrũt ewak
3S.DEP MOD tear+DIR2 AB+house & stone+3S.POS & wood+3S.POS & mortar+CONS AB+side+CONS AB+house
memak Le 14:45
all
he must tear down the house, its stones, its timbers, and the mortar of all the sides of the house

47.
me godaũ**t** **e**kabiroro ion bwe aiquen me emae**t**[47] **e**mainibe 1Ki 7:32
& high+CONS AB+wheel INDF for one & INDF+CL21[4] AB+cubit
the height of one wheel as one and a half cubits

48.
etsimine[35] kaeõgedaũ**t** **e**be ea**t** **e**rũrũn arura[53] aeõg 1Ki 10:19
3S.DEP+exist CAUS+place.down+CONS AB+arm on+CONS side+3S.POS NP+two+CL30[3] together
there were places to rest the arms (arm-rests) on both sides of the it

49.
auwe[26a,27] togi**t** geidawianaw inimaget ãn[44] Lu 1:42
2S.IND end+CONS AB+prosper among+CONS AB+female
you are most favoured among womem

50.
auwãen[56] geld ei[26a,27] awara**t** **i**baka memak 1Ti 6:10
love+3S.GER money 3S.IND root+CONS AB+bad all
its being loved money / the love for money is the rood of all evil

51.
tsin ie[57] ekeow[35] barajited i**t** **e**barajited, inan barajitedeiot ekeken?Matt 5:13
COND be.not+DIR salt CONS AB+salt UNR salt+APPL+COM what
if there is no saltiness of salt, with what will it be salted

9.4. Denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker attached to a /j/ consonant-initial noun.

_n + i/j_ > _ t + i/j_

Examples:

52.
eat ijor NG63
on+CONS AB+post
on the post

53.
A nimõ wei añet[32b,72] ewak ion, ñea ta bait jiũiow iwim
1S.DEP MOD build to+CONS+VNI+PERF AB+house INDF E+MED only object+CONS AB+burn AB+sacrifice
ñan obojarara ian men? 2Chr 2:6
E+P+ 3S.DEP+odour+RED in+CONS face+3.POS
I must now build for him a house, the one only (as) object for the burning of offerings what are sweet smelling before him?

54.
rõ[18] õd ian edõgen apoit[74] ijited Eze 39:11
3P.DEP pass in+CONS towards.side+CONS east+CONS AB+sea
they passed by on the side towards the east of the sea

55.
mõ[18] õ[59a] õweijoran ñabũna magit ijõñ eñame eow ean[68c] Da 4:17
& 3S.DEP set.up E+ANIM.P+MED exhaust+CONS AB+below AB+person DIR on+3S.POS
he sets it up over the lowest of men by means of it

56.

A eõ õt ijeiji ñan eta Da 10:3
1S.DEP NEG eat AB+food E+P+ 3S.DEP+sweet
I did not eat the tasty foods

57.

etsitobo bet akeweõit ijor eat eran[34a] me ean bet
3S.DEP+similar also CAUS+image+CONS AB+post on+3S.POS INDF+CL30[3] & on+3S.POS also
ñarana eran[34a] Eze 40:10
E+CL30[3]+MED INDF+30[3]
it was similar also the measurement of the post on the one side and also on the other side

58.

amwaim[61] eõ makur mo[18,19] quoquo**t** **i**jeiji ñea epar in mag John 6:27
2P.DEP+MOD NEG work &+3S.DEP strive AB+food E+MED 3S.DEP+hurry CONS exhaust
do not work or strive for food that quickly is exhausted

59.

magit i**j**õñ Matt 5:19
exhaust+CONS AB+low
the lowest

9.5. Denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker when it surfaces as 'zero' when attached to a noun that is /e/ or /i/ vowel-Initial.

_n + e/e_ > _n + Ø + e_ > _ t + e_

_n + i/i_ > _ n + Ø + i_ > _t + i_

Examples:

60.
re torer ia**t** **e**köm NG30
3P.DEP speak in+CONS AB+judge
they spoke in court [Kayser's rendition: they deposed before the court]

61.
amwaim[61] oque**t** **i**jited imago, me imin õeta re nimō õebak ũra ea**t** **e**b Ge 1:22
2P.DEP+MOD FAC+full AB+sea LOC+sea & AB+thing fly 3P.DEP MOD FAC+many 3P.IND on+CONS AB+land
you must fill the seas/let the seas be filled and the birds must multiply/let the birds multiply on earth

62.
Noa ei eñame ion omo, me togi**t** **e**imwi deden Ge 6:9
Noah 3S.IND AB+person INDF 3S.DEP+good & end+CONS AB+right manner+3S.POS
Noah was a righteous man, his ways were very upright / blameless

63.
auwe[26a] wo nan ñow itañin am bagadugu ia**t** **i**ow Ge 15:15
2S.IND 2S.DEP UNR go.to place+CONS GPOS+2S.POS ancestor in+CONS AB+peace
as for you, you will go to the place of your forefathers in peace

64.
etsimine[60] ñain Laban arume**t** **ã**n Ge 29:16
3S.DEP+exist child+CONS Laban NP+two+ANIM AB+female
Laban had two daughters

65.
bwina Jehova edu ean eow ea**t**[68c] **ã**e Ex 19:18
for+there Jehovah come.down on+3S.POS DIR on+CONS AB+fire
because Jehovah descended upon by fire

66.
eimwi[59] bwe enim ouwak eke**t**[31] **ã**eñen ea[32c] gold Ps 19:10
right for 3S.DEP+MOD great INDF+CL20[21] wish+3S.GER than gold
it is right that it should be greater the desiring of it than gold / one ought to desire it more than gold

67.
eman õkõr anũ ea**t**[68c] **ã**eñ itsimor ñea õñaũn[49] itũrũm Ps 119:81
3S.DEP+die+PER INTENS spirit+1S.POS on+CONS AB+wish AB+live E+MED 3S.DEP+leave by+2S.POS
my spirit is already really perishing by the desiring life that comes from you

68.
opuduen ñaim io**t** **e**man Je 20:15
3S.DEP+fall+PERF child+P2S.POS INDF AB+male
she has already given birth to a male child of hers

69.
inimage**t** **e**man me eman Eze 18:8
among+CONS AB+male & AB+male
between a man and (another) man

70.
me etsi**t** **e**man, me etsi**t** **ã**n Mark 10:30
& child+3S.POS AB+male & child+3S.POS AB+female
and his sons and his daughters

71.
aeoq eraña**t** **e**man, me ã eõ õdũ bet ãn me eoniñ Matt 15:38
NP+four INDF.1000 AB+male & 3S.DEP NEG count also AB+female & AB+young
four thousand men, and the women and young ones / children also were not counted

72.
eñame ion ũge bwe[18] eimwi[59] an õ**t** **i**min memak Ro 14:2
AB+person INDF say for right GPOS+3S.POS eat AB+thing all
one man says / a certain man says that his eating all things is proper
/õn/ is the verb 'eat'.

73.
taururi**t** **e**n̓it eran NG214
roar+CONS AB+wind INDF+CL30[3]
a roaring wind

74.
inan ededegeri atsin i**a**t **i**aõ aeow iat itũrũgago Job 18:18
UNR follow+RED from+3S.POS in+CONS AB+light towards in+CONS AB+darkness
he will drive him from the light to the darkness

74a.
ian wongara ga**t** **e**ir Matt 25:4 1976
in+CONS RPOS+3P.POS container+CONS AB+oil
in their oil containers

74b.
A õrre bwa A nim õrea**t i**ow eat eb Matt 10:34
1S.DEP come for 1S.DEP MOD bring DIR on+CONS AB+land
(that) I came in order to bring peace on earth

9.6. Denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker when attached to a noun that is /a/ or /o/ or /õ/ or /ũ / or /u/ vowel-initial.

A different outcome of the denasalization process takes place in these instances. The non-syllabic /e̯/ or /i̯/ is elided:

_n + e/a_ > _n + e̯a_ > _ t + a_

_n + e/o_ > _ n + e̯o_ > _t + o_

_n + e/õ_ > _n + e̯õ_ > _t + õ_

_n + e/u_ > _n + i̯u > _t + u_

Examples:

75.
io**t a**muid NG14
INDF AB+eel
an eel

76.
arume**t** **o**niṅ NG14
NP+two+ANIM AB+young
two children

77.
ia**t** **o**aeo NG14
in+CONS AB+strong
in (by) the being strong

78.
ake erumena[62] eṅab me amea[63] ekä tamuitönät[56] äita daṅe**t** **a**nakiwui NG30
fight female+two+ANIM+MED AB+old & male+MED make strike+COM+3S.GER female+MED companion+3S.POS AB+coconut
the old couple fought and the man (husband) made being struck with coconuts his lady companion (wife) / the old couple fought and the husband made the striking of his wife with coconuts
[Kayser's rendition: the old couple were fighting and the husband struck his wife with coconuts]

79.
A ogiten õrig a aijime**t**[64] **o**niñ in eman Ge 29:34
1S.DEP COMPL FAC+come.into.existence to+3S NP+three AB+young CONS male
I have borne to him three boys

80.
wo nimo ñaeow murowa[65] ring eat erũrũ**t** **u**ba ñana arura Ex 28:23
2S.DEP MOD put NEII+two+MED ring on+CONS AB+side+CONS AB+breastplate E+MED.P NP+two+CL30[3]
you should put the two rings on the sides of the breastplate that are two (i.e. the two sides)

81.
ochs io**t** **o**niñ Le 8:2
ox INDF AB+young
a young ox (bullock)

82.
ia**t** **u**bo n ake Deu 2:9
in+CONS AB+[array] CONS fight
in the battle

83.
ea**t**[68c] **õ**ũge Jos 22:24
on+CONS AB+say
by the saying it

84.
eraitsi**t** **u**ea n Israel 2 Sa 6:20
AB+glory+CONS AB+king CONS Israel
the glory of the king of Israel

85.
mõ õ gũñaeõ**t** **a**nakeba n keweõ 2Sa 8:2
& FAC+measure+COM AB+line CONS plan
and he measured out with a laying-out line

86.
aebwetsi**t**[66] **a**nakeba 2Sa 8:2
NP+one+CL7[18/19] AB+line
one measuring line (unit)

87.
ama ma arume**t**[64] **o**niñ in man inimagōra 2Ki 2:24
forty & NP+two+ANIM AB+young CON male among+3P.POS
forty-two boys among them

88.
mõ õtsiõtaõn bodi**t** **u**que? Job 40:24
& pierce.through+COM nose+3S.POS AB+snare
and pierce through his nose with the snare?

89.
wo kona n õmamagõn witi**t** **u**que ñana debitsi Job 41:7
2S.DEP able CONS FAC+exhaust+COM skin+3.POS AB+hook E+MED.P iron
can you fill his skin with iron hooks?

90.
mõ õbũ ebaba ñana bai**t** **õ**ijõn Ps 126:6
& carry AB+seed E+MED.P object+CONS AB+plant
and carrying seed for planting

91.
ñabũna[25] rõ[18] õren akõdan ea**t**[68g] **u**go Ca 4:2
E+ANIM.P+MED 3P.DEP IMM go.up+DIR9 on+CONS AB+wash
those ones who just now come up from the wash (sheep coming up from being washed)

92.
ea**t**[68c] **u**da n õekeow Je 12:17
on+CONS AB+uproot CONS FAC+be.not+DIR
by the uprooting to destruction

93.
o puduen ian wañara bai**t** **u**que imin gõgõrõ Eze 19:4
3S.DEP fall+PERF in+CONS RPOS+3P.POS object+CONS AB+snare AB+thing run+RED
he then fell into their snare for animals

94.
inimage**t** **a**rõeni n Israel Eze 47:22
among+CONS AB+tribe CONS Israel
among the tribes of Israel
e̦arõeni = tribe

95.
etowedũdũ ion ñea togi**t** **o**goda Matt 4:8
AB+mountain INDF E+MED end+CONS AB+high
a very high mountain

96.
ñabūna[25] ra[18] arak ea**t**[68g] **õ**ri**t** **a**rak Matt 4:24
E+ANIM.P+MED 3P.DEP sick on+3S.POS sort+CONS AB+sick
those ones sickening from all kinds of illnesses

97.
tamo kwinukwi**t** **a**rag Matt 4:24[23] 1976
any sort+CONS AB+sick
any sort of sickness

98.
amwamõ[61] magi**t** **o**mo Matt 5:48
2P.DEP+MOD exhaust+CONS AB+good
you must be most righteous/blameless

99.
pen jöŋi**t** **o̦**m Kayser 1934A:778
stone+CONS below+CONS AB+oven
large heating stone at the base of the earth-oven

100.
pe**t** **o̦**m Kayser 1934A:778
stone+CONS AB+oven
small heating stone of the earth-oven

101.
oag i**t** **a**nakiwui NG193
house CONS AB+coconut
coconut (storage-)shed

9.7. Denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker when attached to a noun that is diphthong-initial.

n + eoa > _t + eoa_

102.
jöṅi**t** **o**ag NG14
below+CONS AB+house
under the house

103.
jore**t** **o**ag NG15
post+CONS AB+house
post of the house, house-post

104.
ṅabe**t** **o**ag NG15
master+CONS AB+house
master of the house

105.
barabar **it** **o**ag NG193
ridge CONS AB+house
ridge for the house NG193

106.
ia**t** **o**ag in arag NG63
in+CONS AB+house CONS sick
into hospital

107.
nim obu imiton atin ia**t** **o**ag Matt 24:17
MOD carry something from+CONS in+CONS AB+house
should bring something out from the house

9.8. Final Observations: differences between 1918 Bible and 1976 New Testament.

There are a number of words that are analysed differently by the 1918 Bible and Kayser's works that do not affect denasalization but result in a different orthographic result for the noun triggering denasalization.

Mention has already been make of /oag/ versus /wak/ (Section 9.2.)

Kayser tends to record /ukwa/ versus/qua/ 'fruit'

Another instance is with the noun /qui/ as evidenced below:

108.
bwe[18] e nim õredõan bita ñea o[59a] ogiten[59] abi iow iat iqui Le 6:4 [iqui]
for 3S.DEP MOD bring.back NEIII+MED E+MED COMPL strike DIR in+CONS AB+deceive
for he should return what thing he had (taken violently KJV) by deceit

109.
amar eo odod iat ukwiy 2Co 4:2 1976 [i̯ukwiy]
1D.EXCL+DEP NEG pass.along+RED in+CONS AB+deceive
we two have not walked with deception

10. Denasalisation and the General Indefinite Determiner /ion/.

The General Indefinite Determiner /ion/ is taken to represent /i̯on/ and triggers denasalization but only with a few oft-used expressions, and may undergo a form of contraction.

The pronunciation of /i̯on/ has undergone yodization to /jon/ and in the contemporary era /jon/ is vying with its fricated version, /ʝon/

The oft-used expressions are:

10.1. ãn + ion > ãt on 'a woman, a female'.

110.
A tsietien bwa[18,73] auwe[27] ãt on ñea omo aiaen Ge 12:11
1S.DEP know+PERF for 2S.IND AB+female INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+good see+3S.GER
I do now know that you are a very comely woman

111.
A megeda tekei uea ãn me deo[27] aña[27] ãt on ñea ema agen Re 18:7
1S.DEP sit.down like king female & only+NEG 1S.IND female INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+die spouse+3S.POS
I am sat like a queen and it is not I a woman whose husband is de

10.2. imin + ion > imiton 'a thing, anything'.

112.
adag etsimine[35] imit on ñea ã eõ kona eow itũrin Jehova Ge 18:14
TAG 3S.DEP+exist thing INDF 3S.DEP 3S.DEP NEG able DIR by+CONS Jehovah
is there anything that is impossible with Jehovah

113.
wo eo baru imit ot atsin ian bet’ eñame ia aiquen 1Sa 12:4
2S.DEP NEG take thing INDF from+CONS in+CONS hand+CONS AB+person COND one
you have not taken anything out of the hand of any man at all

114.
A tik ãt imit on ñea etiritir bwe emetan ijõñit emwarere Re 13:11
1S.DEP still see thing INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+wild for 3S.DEP+go.out+DIR8+CONS under+CONS AB+earth
I saw again a thing that was wild that came from beneath the ground

10.3. ijegen + ion > ijeget on ‘ who is the one (who)’.

115.
ijeget on inimagen am tsio memak ñea edõbweduwen tekei David 1Sa 22:14
who INDF among+CONS GPOS+2S.POS servant all E+MED 3S.DEP+trustworthy like David
who is the one among all your servants who is trustworthy like David

116.
ijeget on tekei auwe[26a] inimagen Israel? 1Sa 26:16
who INDF like 2S.IND among+CONS Israel
who is the one like you among Israel

117.
ijeget on ñea etsiet waion egirowũm Ps 90:11
who INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+know strong+CONS anger+2S.POS
who is the one who knows the strength of your anger

118.
bwi ijeget on ñea eo miow ie[18] eturen ame ? Je 30:21
for who INDF E+MED NEG fear COND 3S.DEP+near to+1S.DAT
for who is the one who does not fear when he draws close to me

10.4. ñain + ion > ñait on ‘a child of his’

119.
tsin iõ[18] õ[59a] õrig[59] ñait on ñea amen abab ñame Eze 18:10
COND 3S.DEP FAC+generate child+3S.POS INDF E+MED male.for kill+RED person
if he brings forth a child of his who is a killer

120.
ijeget eñame eamiã[68h], tsin ia ñait on õkõn a brot, i nan oija epe? Matt 7:9
who AB+person on+2P.POS COND child+3S.POS INDF 3S.DEP+ask to+3S bread UNR give.to+3S AB+stone
who is the man out of you/which of you, if a child of his asks for a loaf, he will give him a stone?

11. Denasalization and the Unrealized Aspect Marker /inan/.

/inan/ is the Unrealized Aspect Marker. It also appears in free variation as /nan/.

/inan/ looks to be the base form as the words /me/ 'and'; /bwe/ 'for'; and /re/ the 3rd Person Plural Dependent Pronoun, all elide the vowel before /inan, nan/, i.e.

me + inan > m inan

bwe + inan > bw inan

re + inan > r inan

They are invariably written

mi inan or mi nan

bwi inan or bwi nan

ri nan

The Unrealized Aspect Marker /inan/ can undergoes Denasalization under certain circumstances.

11.1. Denasalization of /inan/ followed by a monosyllabic verb.

When the verb that it governs is monosyllabic.

Examples:

126.
mi nat ãeñuw õkõr Ge 4:7
& UNR wish+2S.OBJ INTENS
and it will surely desire for you

127.
amwa nat ãt Matt 7:7
2P.DEP UNR see
you will see it

11.2. Denasalization of /inan/ followed by a verb with initial /ea/ or /eo/.

When the verb that it governs begins with the vowel sequences /ea/ or /eo/ in which case the first vowel is dropped.

Examples:

128.
inat' agad a uw gaim NG166
UNR reach to 2S.OBJ woe+2S.POS
you will get your chastisement [eagada a gain = reach to him his woe, get his chastisement, be cursed]

129.

nat agada gait eñame ñea õeko wout etōñin mi inen Deu 27:16
UNR reach+to+3S woe+CONS AB+person E+MED FAC+be.not value+CONS father+3S.POS & mother+3S.POS
it will rest on him the woes of a man who makes to be nothing the value of his father and mother / woe to the man who treats with contempt his father and mother [eagada a gain = reach to him his woe, get his chastisement, be cursed]

130.

ñea eidõdõn an roe eñame nat agada gain Pr 17:5
E+MED 3S.DEP+laugh+COM GPOS+3S.POS trouble AB+person UNR reach+to+3S woe+3S.POS
the one who laughs at the troubles of a man will have his woe come upon him [eagada a gain = reach to him his woe, get his chastisement, be cursed]

131.

mi nat adō mõra Is 29:18
& UNR loosen eye+3P.POS
and one will open their eyes / and their eyes will be opened [ead men = loosen one's eyes, open one's eyes]

130.

ri nat ogoda kõ mõ õtsimoruw atsin ian am roe ia ro kona Je 2:28
3P.DEP UNR arise COMM & FAC+live+2P.OBJ from+CONS in+CONS GPOS+2S.POS heavy COND 3P.DEP able
let them arise and save you from your troubles, if they are able [eogoda = get up, arise]

131.

A nat atow ãita ñea omo aiaen Je 6:21
1S.DEP UNR leave female+MED E+MED 3S.DEP+good see+3S.GER
I will leave the woman who is fair to the sight [eatow = leave]

132.

nat agada aw gaim, Chorazin! Matt 11:21
UNR reach to+2S.OBJ woe+2S.POS Chorzin
Chorazin, you woes will come upon you / woe to you [eagada a gain = reach to him his woe, get his chastisement, be cursed]

133

mi inat ad amiã dūra Lu 6:37
& UNR loosen GPOS+2P.POS sin
and will forgive your sins [ead idũra = loosen misdeed, forgive one's sin]

134.

tin ia ekeow, wo nat aiyedu iat obweni ngea ia ore Lu 13:9 1976
COND be.not+DIR 2S.DEP UNR cut.down in+CONS AB+year E+MED CONS 3S.DEP+come
If it is not, you will cut it down in the year when it comes (i.e. the following year) [eaiyedu = cut down, fell]

135.

bwi inat adida ñea ã õrig bet atsin eat[68g] itsiõ n ima Ro 3:21
for UNR release E+MED 3S.DEP FAC+cause.to.be also from+CONS on+CONS AB+slave CONS die
for he will release the one who is also brought into being out from the slavery to death [eadida = loosen up, release]

11.3. Denasalization of /inan/ in topicalized phrases.

In topicalized phrases, if /inan/ is followed by a high vowel through the transposition of words, the final /n/ of /inan/ undergoes denasalization, i.e. :

136.
Juda, nat etsiedum etsitanuw Ge 49:8
Judah UNR sibling+2S.POS 3S.DEP+praise+2S.OBJ
Judah, it will be your brothers who will praise you

137.
nat etsin eijatsi agen bwe[18] e nim õrig ñait etsin Matt 22:24
UNR sibling+3S.POS 3S.DEP+marry spouse+3S.POS for 3S.DEP MOD FAC+generate child+CONS sibling+3S.POS
it will be his brother who will marry his (late brother) wife so that she may beget his (late) brother's children

138.
memag ngana teo[27] bwain iat itueb, nat idura ngana 14:23 1976
all E+MED.P only+NEG object+CONS in+CONS AB+believe UNR AB+sin E+MED.P
all those things that are not to do in faith, those things will be sin

11.4. Denasalization of /inan/ followed by /ekeken/.

139.
nat ekeken ñea A pan a ũra Ex 3:13
UNR what E+MED 1S.DEP speak to 3P.OBJ
what will I say to them?

140.
nat ekeket dedeu ie[18] eogoda[59] Gott? Job 31:14
UNR what manner+1S.POS COND arise God
what will my behaviour be when God arises?

141.
mi nat ekeketen wama imin? Matt 19:27
& UNR what+PERF RPOS+1P.EXC.POSS thing
and what will be our things?

11.5. Denasalzation of /inan/ - Other Cases.

142.
tsin ie[18] e rouw, aro aeõg mi nat ebwigaga Le 27:33
COND 3S.DEP exchange two together & UNR 3S.DEP+holy
if he exchanges it, it is the the two together that will be holy

143.
mõ[49] rõ[49] quidõ wein estimeduw iat deiren etsimeduw, ma[18] aro ma[18]
& 3P.DEP CAUS+pour wine 3S.DEP+new in+CONS container 3S.DEP+new & two &
ar nat eõ dõgedõg Matt 9:17
2D.DEP UNR NEG harmed
but they pour new wine into fresh containers, and (the) two, and both will be unharmed

12. Denasalization with the General and Relative Possessive Classifiers.

The 3rd Person Singular forms of the General and Relative Possessive Classifiers are:

General Possessive Classifier - an

Relative Possessive Classifier - wõn

These forms do not normally undergo Denasalization.

The General and Relative Possessive Classifiers are used to possessivize Alienable Nouns.

Inalienable Nouns are objects intimately connected to human existence, and these are possessivized by means of possessive suffixes.

Alienable nouns are marked with an indirect possession construction that requires a possessive classifier - with the appropriate possessive suffix - that precedes the alienable noun.

There are two possessive classifiers used in the Nauruan alienable possessive phrase.

The General Possessive Classifier is used for objects in a relationship of "outright possession or ownership" (NG20)

The Relative Possessive Classifier is used for "actual use of a thing, the permanent or transitory possession of a thing" (NG:20)

Table 10. Template for the Alienable Possessive Phrase.

Function Slot 1	Function Slot 2	Function Slot 3
Possessive Classifier with Possessive Suffix referencing Possessor	Possessum	Possessor

Examples:

144.
an eg etõñin Ge 26:18
GPOS+3S.POS name gather+3S.POS
the names of (assigned by) his father

145.
wõn esel etõñin ñea Zibeon Ge 36:24
RPOS+3S.POS donkey father+3S.POS E+MED Zibeon
the donkey of his father

146.
ouwak[59] an eõ earañame Ex 14:18
great GPOS+3S.POS loving-kindness
his loving-kindness is great

147.
an epo memak Nu 16:6
GPOS+3S.POS congregation all
all of his congregation

148.
an ewew Aaron Nu 17:6
GPOS.3S.POS staff Aaon
the staff of Aaron

149.
awõrin[67] aeiu an eke ekarare Nu 19:4
NP+CL35[23] NP+seven GPOS+3S.POS make AB+CAUS+sprinkle
seven times his making the spatterring

150.
ea[32d] an eko[35] ion iõ[18] õreño[59] Nu 21:35
until GPOS+3S.POS be.not INDF COND remain
until its not being / until there being no-one that remained

151.
etsimine dañat eñame ion ñea eturet eken an ereribe
3S.DEP+exist companion+CONS AB+person INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+close INDF+CL20[21] GPOS+3S.POS stick
ea[32c] etsit eñame Pr 18:24
than sibling+CONS AB+person
there is the companion of a man whose attachment to him is closer than a man's brother

However, they can undergo denasalization in certain circumstances.

12.1. Denasalization in Inverted Possessive Construction.

In the Inverted Possessive Constructiont the usual position of the Function Slots 2 (Possessum) and 3 (Possessor) are inverted whereby the General or Relative Possessive Classifier may be followed by a high vowel, in which case the word-final /n/ of /an/ and /wõn/ is denasalized. This inversion may be stylistic in some cases, but as a general rule the following environments trigger the inversion:

1. When the possessive phrase is complex (i.e. the possessum has more than one word).

2. When the possessor is an identified person or body.

3. When there is no specific possessor (generic possession).

Table 11. Template for the Inverted Alienable Possessive Phrase.

Function Slot 1	Function Slot 3	Function Slot 2
Possessive Classifier with Possessive Suffix referencing Possessor	Possessor	Possessum

Examples:

152.
õũga[59] an Gott õbũ[59] wõn imin gõgõrõ etõñũmũrõr Ge 31:9
be.so GPOS+3S.POS God take RPOS+3S.POS AB+thing run+RED father+2D.POS
thus God's taking the animals of your father

In the above case (Example 153) the complex possessive phrase has triggered the inversion of Possessor and Possessum but there is no denasalization because the Possessor (God) is not initial high-vowel.

153.
ar eõ ãtien at etõñũrõr eõ bõñe duwen Ge 9:23
3D.DEP NEG see+PERF GPOS+3S.POS father+3D.POS NEG cover flesh+3Ss.POS
the two of them had not then seen their father's not covering his body/their father's nakedness

154.
e iki at ãita ñain mequõredu a Ge 19:35
3S.DEP not.know GPOS+3S.POS female+MED child+3S.POS lie.DIR2 to+3S.POS
he was unaware of his daughter's lying down with him

155.
õũga[59] at ãirumena ñain Lot kona ñaiũrõr
be.so GPOS+3S.POS female+two+ANIM+MED child+3S.POS Lot able child+3S.POS
eow itũrit etõñũrõr Ge 19:36
DIR by+3S.POS father+3D.POS
the obtaining children of the two daughters of Lot by their father was so / this was how the two daughters of Lot got children by their father

156.
araquin at ibwibwin Israel mek i Ãgypten Ex 12:40
long+CONS GPOS+3S.POS descendent+RED+CONS Israel dwell at Egypt
the length of the dwelling of the descendents of Israel in Egypt

157.
at eñame wim in jiũiow Le 16:24
GPOS+3S.POS AB+person sacrifice CONS burn
the burnt-offering of the people.

158.
õũga bet at ibwibwin Israel ririñ Num 9:5
be.so also GPOS+3S.POS descendent+RED+CONS Israel do
so too were the actions of the descendants of Israel

159.
bwe baen mũñana ã kona eow ean at etõñin row-iow
for compliment+CONS NEII+MED.P 3S.DEP able DIR on+3S.POS GPOS+3S.POS father+3S.POS barter+DIR
wõn imin Deu 18:8
RPOS+3S.POS AB+thing
for its compliment is got by his selling his father's possessions

160.
mi Israel memak rõ õd eat emwarere emõg ea[32d] at epo memak ōd
& Israel all 3P.DEP pass.along on+CONS AB+ground 3S.DEP+dry until GPOS+3S.POS AB+together all pass.along
ean[68i] Jordan Jos 3:17
on+CONS Jordan
and all Israel passed by on dry ground until all the congregation passed over the Jordan

161.
mõ õweijot equan, mõ õweijo bet maraman, ea[32d] at eponñame õeõgida gain
& 3S.DEP+stand+PERF AB+sun & 3S.DEP+stand also moon+3S.POS until GPOS+3S.POS AB+nation settle.upon
woe+CONS barũōra Jos 10:13
enemy+3P.POS
and the sun then stood still, and its moon stood still, until the nation's settling woes upon their enemies

162.
Abjathar oroga ea[32d] at eñame memak metan iat tekawa 2Sa 15:24
Abiathar 3S.DEP+go.up until GPOS+3S.POS AB+person all go.out+DIR8 in+CONS city
Abiathar went up, until the going out of the city of all the people

163.
tekei an amea ririñ eat obweni aeoweaeow, ia ãita oroga
like GPOS+3S.POS male+MED do on+3S.POS AB+year on.and.on COND female+MED 3S.DEP+go.up
ian an wak Jehova, õũga bet at ãita oroe ãita 1Sa1:7
in+3S.POS GPOS+3S.POS house Jehovah be.so also GPOS+3S.POS female+MED 3S.DEP+FAC+heavy female+MED
according to the actions of that man year by year, when she went up to the house of Jehovah, so also was the oppressing her of that woman/that woman's oppressing her

164.
õũga at eñame õtsimor Jonathan 1Sa14:45
be.so GPOS+3S.POS AB+person FAC+save Jonathan
thus was the people's saving Jonathan

165.
õũga at David õtsimor ñamen Kegila 1Sa 23:5
be.so GPOS+3S.POS David FAC+live person+CONS Keilah
thus was David's saving the men of Keilah

166.
etsimine at ãita karawin ion ñea ekekae men ean 2Sa 13:18
3S.DEP+exist GPOS+3S.POS female+MED clothing INDF E+MED 3S.DE+ different+RED face+3S.POS on+3S.POS
there is a garment of hers that differing faces on it

167.
bwo ouwak at etõñũm miowuw 2Sa 16:21
for big GPOS+3S.POS father+2S.POS fear+2S.OBJ
for your father's hating you was great

168.
aña wõt ãita amen eow atsin iat ije Job 31:18
1S.IND RPOS+3S.POS female+MED man+for lead from+3S.POS in+3S.POS AB+womb
I have been the woman's guide from the womb

169.
tekei at etõñin kananoañei[69] ñain, õũga bet an Jehova
like GPOS+3S.POS father+3S.POS mercy+APPL child+3S.POS be.so also GPOS+3S.POS Jehovah
kananoañei ũra ñabũna re miow ñei[26] Ps 103:13
mercy+APPL 3P.OBJ E+ANIM.P+MED 3P.DEP fear E+3S.IND
as the father's compassion for his children, so too is Jehovah's compassion for those ones who fear him

170.
tekei at etõñũra mejiõn egõ bwe dõgin Baal Je 23:27
like GPOS+3S.POS father+3P.POS forget name+1S.POS for reason+3S.POS Baal
as their father's forgetting my name because of the Baal

171.
A pan ñane imin tekei at etõñũ wereri ame John 8:28
1sDEP speak E+PROX.P AB+thing like GPOS+3S.POS father+1sPOS instruct to+1S.DAT
I speak these things according to my Father's instructing me

172.
tekei at ebõk eijababa imin 2Sa5:20
like GPOSS+3S.DEP AB+water break.up AB+thing
like water's destroying things

173.
tekei at ãe õij silber, me eom õij gold, õũga bet an Jehova õij ibūriõ Pr 17:3
like GPOS+3S.POS fire test silver & AB+oven test gold be.so also GPOS+3S.POS Jehovah test AB+heart
as the testing of silver of (by) fire and the oven tests gold, the same also is Jehovah's testing of hearts

174.
ñabũna rõ gapũmaran ea[32d] at wein õkũñijow ũra Is 5:11
E+ANIM.PL+MED 3P.DEP pass.the.night until GPOS+3S.POS AB+wine CAUS+burn+DIR 3P.OBJ
those staying up all night until the wine's inflaming them
['at wein' either because there is a tendency for loaned words to trigger denasalization, or the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is missing]

2. A specific possessor:

175.
mo ouwak at eñame miow Ge 20:8
& great GPOS+3S.POS AB+person fear
and the men's fearing was great/and great was the fear of the men

176.
tekei at etõñin eije Ge 27:14
like GPOS+3S.POS father+3S.POS crave
like his father's craving it

177.
atsin ean wõt etõñida imin Ge 31:1
from+3S.POS on+3S.POS RPOS+3S.POS father+1P.INCL..POS AB+thing
out of our father's things

178.
o konaet eraitsit in ebakit imin atsin ean wõt etõñida imin Ge 31:1
3S.DEP able+PERF AB+glory CONS many+CONS AB+thing from+3S.POS on+3S.POS RPOS+3S.POS father+1P.INCL.POS AB+thing
he has obtained the glory of many things out from our father's things

179.
bwe re nim õrenõn wõt etõñũra schafe Ex 2:16
for 3P.DEP MOD FAC+drink+COM RPOS+3S.POS father+3P.POS sheep
to water their father's sheep

180.
enimõ mek itũrũm ea[32d] at edũm õni Deu 22:2
3S.DEP+MOD dwell by+2S.POS until GPOS+3S.POS sibling+2S.POS seek
let it remain with you until your brother's seeking it

181.
at etõñũ konkubine 2Sa 3:7
GPOS+3S.POS father+1S.POS concubine
my father's concubines

182.
wo nim idõg a ãinibun at etõñũm konkubine 2Sa 16:21
2S.DEP MOD lie to+3S.POS female+ANIM.P+ GPOS+3S.POS father+2S.POS concubine
you should lie with the concubines of your father

183.
tekei at etõñũra ririñ 2Ki 17:41
like GPOS+3S.POS father+3P.POS do
according to the doings of their fathers

184.
ñag õ[59a] õmwarere[59] wõt etõñin bett 1Chr 5:1
TEMP+ 3S.DEP FAC+dirty RPOS+3S.POS father+3S.POS bed
when he defiled his father's bed

185.
wo ogiten õgõg wõt edũm imin bwo[18] oduwenen aen me eko dõgin Job 22:6
2S.DEP COMPL hold RPOS+3S.POS father+2S.POS A+thing for FAC+true+3S.GER word+3S.POS & be.not reason+3S.POS
you have seized your brother's things as a witness to his word [as a pledge] and for no reason

186.
beõ okona wõt eponñame imin tekei enaduet eika Is 10:14
hand+1S.POS 3S.DEP+able RPOS+3S.POS nation AB+thing like discover+3S.GER AB+nest
my hand has gotten the things of the nations like the finding of a nest

187.
ion o[70] opudu eow ean wõt etsin pudutũbwin Hag 2:22
INDF FV 3S.DEP+fall DIR on+3S.POS RPOS+3S.POS sibling+3S.POS sword
each one falls by the sword of his brother

188.
dañan ma[18] amen ũbwien memak rõ[49] kaiōt bwo[18] ouwak at Temoniba
companion+3S.POS & male.for home+3S.POS all 3P.DEP hear for great GPOS+3S.POS Lord
kananoañei Lu 1:58
compassion+APPL
all her neighbors and her relatives heard that the Lord's excercising mercy towards her was great

189.
at etõñin õrida ñabũn ema mõ[18] õtsimor ũra John 5:21
GPOS+3S.POS father+3S.POS FAC+rise E+ANIM.P+ 3S.DEP+die & FAC+live 3P.OBJ
the Father's making to rise those who are dead and making them to live

190.
tekei at etõñũ tsietõ õũga bet aeõ tsiet etõñũ John 10:15
like GPOS+3S.POS father+1S.POS know+1S.OBJ be.so also G.POS+1S.POS know father+1sPOS
according to my Father's knowing me, so too is my knowing my Father

191.
memag mungana wot eita min Ac 8:27 1976
all NEII+MED.P RPOS+3S.POS female+MED thing
all her belongings

192.
wõt dañamiã imin Phil 2:4
RPOS+3S.POS companion+2P.POSS AB+thing
your companions' things

3. Generic Possessor:

193.
tekei at eñame õõũne eñame ion
like GPOS+3S.POS AB+person wound AB+person INDF
enim õũga bet at eñame tik õõũne ñei[26] Le 24:20
3S.DEP+MOD be.so also GPOS+3S.POS AB+person yet FAC+wound E+3S.IND
as a person's injuring a[nother] man, so also should be the man's injuring him

194.
bwe e barũ at eñame dienak bwi[18] imin in oduwen Deu 24:6
for 3S.DEP take R.POS+3S.POS AB+person livelihood for AB+thing CONS FAC+true+3S.GER
for he takes a person's livelihood/sustenance as a pledge/as security

195.
A nan iraeõn at eñame ewew 2Sa 7:14
1S.DEP UNR hit+COM GPOS+3S.POS AB+person AB+rod
I will hit him with the rod of men

196.
õten at eñame kona n omo Job 9:2
how GPOS+3S.POS AB+person able CONS good
how is a man's ability to be good/righteous

197.
bwe eõ reñõ wõt eñame imin bwe dõgit ãinimwen te toreda Pr 6:26
for NEG remain RPOS+3S.POS AB+person AB+thing for reason+3S.POS female+for prostitute
for nothing of a man's belongings remain on account of a prostitute

198.
õten at eñame tsiet deden memak? Pr 20:24
how GPOS+3S.POS AB+person know manner+3S.POS all
how is man's knowing all his ways?/how can man understand all his ways

199.
wo nim eõ õnũñita wõt eñame imit on ñea e teñ ewewin Pr 25:9
2S.DEP MOD NEG reveal RPOS+3S.POS AB+person AB+thing INDF E+MED 3S.DEP want conceal
keep secret a matter of a man that he wants hidden

200.
debitsi õeõkõñ debitsi; õũga bet at eñame õeõkõñ met dañan Pr 27:17
iron FAC+sharp iron be.so also GPOS+3S.POS AB+person FAC+sharp face+CONS companion+3S.POS
iron sharpens iron; so too a man's sharpening the face of his companion

201.
omo eken at eñame kaiõt an õrõwe eñame ñea õman ea[32c]
3S.DEP+good INDF+CL20[21] GPOS+3S.POS AB+person hear G.POS+3S.POS reproof AB+person E+MED 3S.DEP+wise than
ekaiõt aũra riañ ñabuna ekabaãt Ecc 7:5
AB+hear GPOS+3P.POS song E+ANIM.P+MED 3S.DEP+fool
better is a man's hearing the reproofs of a wise man than the hearing the songs of fools

202.
bwin eko wõt eñame imit on ñea omo eken ijõñit equan,
for+there be.not RPOS+3S.POS AB+person AB+thing INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+good INDF+CL20[21] below+3S.POS AB+sun
ea[32c]… Ecc 8:15
than
because there is not a thing of man's that is better than…

203.
bwe tsin iõ[18] ouwak at eñame õnani garwewe, e[59a] eab[59] kona n tsiet Ecc 8:17
for COND great GPOS+3S.POS AB+person search careful UNR+NEG able CONS know
if a man's careful searching is great, he will be unable to know it

204.
bwe dõgin at eratequõ ijababa Is 1:7
for reason+3S.POS GPOS+3S.POS AB+foreigner break.up
because of the stranger's destroying it

205.
bwe ebo eket bett ea[32c] at eñame õme duwen ian Is 28:20
for short INDF+20[21] bed than GPOS+3S.POS AB+person stretch.out body+3S.POS in+3S.POS
for the bed is shorter than a man's stretching out his body on it

206.
mi nan ekei[43a] at eñame wenãe Is 44:15
& UNR act.as+3S.IND GPOS+3S.POS AB+person firewood
and it will become firewood of men

207.
õten at eñame ririñ aduwen, ñana deõ[27] bet aduwen? Je 16:20
how GPOS+3S.POS AB+person do god+3S.POS E+MED.P only+NEG also god+3S.POS
how a man's making his gods, those ones also they are not gods

208.
õ[59a] õtar[59] at eñame wim ian Eze 46:24
boil GPOS+3S.POS AB+person offering in+3S.POS
they boil the sacrifice of men in it

209.
tin ia mwa ead mungana at engame dura Matt 6:14 1976
COND 2P.DEP loose NEII+MED.P GPOS+3S.POS AB+person sin
if you forgive the sins of men

210.
mi io[18] ouwaken at eñame nim, ã õdõten imũr ñea eñõũga John 2:10
& COND big+PERF GPOS+3S.POS AB+person drink 3S.DEP pour+PERF later E+MED 3S.DEP+not.sweet
and when the men's drinking is already great, he then pours out that which is not good tasting

211.
õten at eñame kona n tik pudu ie[18] eijiet[27] eñab? John 3:4
how GPOS+3S.POS AB+person abl CONS still fall COND 3S.IND+PERF AB+old
how can a man's getting to be born again when he is already an old man?

212.
iduwen at eñame arumen õpõpan John 8:17
3S.DEP+true GPOS+3S.POS AB+person NP+two+ANIM 3S.DEP+speak+RED
the witness of two men is true

213.
õten at eñame ion amet dũra kona n ririñ
how GPOS+3S.POS AB+person INDF male+for sin able CONS do
emakur in kamadauniñ ñune? John 9:16
AB+work CONS astonish E+PROX
how is a sinful man's ability to do this wondrous work

214.
an metuw ian mungana at engame oag Ac8:3 1976
GPOS+3S.POS go.in+DIR9 in+3S.POS NEII+MED.P GPOS+3S.POS AB+person house
his entering into those homes of people

215.
me ita tarer [sic] eow iat eoag in kereri ngea at engame ion ngea Tyrannus
& only talk DIR in+CONS AB+house CONS CAUS+instruct E+MED GPOS+3S.POS AB+person INDF E+MED Tyrannus
egen eat ibum eaeoweaeow Ac 19:9 1976
name+3S.POS on+CONS AB+day on.and.on.and.on

216.
ian mungana okor at engame oag Acts 20:20 1976
in+3S.POS NEII+MED.P INTENS GPOS+3S.POS AB+person house
and in the people's houses

217.
eõ tekei wõt eñame evangelium ñea ã põpatow itũrũ Ga 1:11
NEG like RPOS+3S.POS AB+person evangel E+MED 3S.DEP speak+RED+DIR by+1S.POS
it is not like a man's evangel that was preached by me

218.
ama eo an bet wot engame bread irongin 2Th 3:8 1976
1P.EXCL.DEP NEG eat also RPOS+3S.POS AB+person bread for.free
also we did not eat the people's bread for free

219.

einibuna ro kereri bet ngaga ian aura pwapwae ian
female+ANIM.P+MED 3P.DEP CAUS+instruct also TEMP+MED in+CONS GPOS+3P.POS go.around+RED in+CONS
at engame oag ian aura eo riring imiton 1Ti 5:13
GPOS+3S.POS AB+person house in+CONS GPOS+3P.POS NEG do AB+thing+INDF
those women learn also when in their going around in the houses of perople in their not doing anything

220.

bwe ura baen ngangena engame r[17a] oreita tioduw ian
for 3P.IND complement+CONS E+CL26[27]+MED AB+person 3P.DEP PROG creep+DIR9 in+CONS
at engame oag 2Ti 3:6
GPOS+3S.POS AB+person house
For they are the complement of that group of men who are creeping into people's houses

221.

amen merũñai wõt eñame imin iat deden ñea eõ eimwi 1Pe 5:15
man+for meddle+APPL RPOS+3S.POS AB+person AB+thing in+3S.POS manner+3S.POS E+MED NEG right
a meddler in people's things in a way that is not correct

222.

oreita kwokwon wat [sic] engame imin 1Pe 4:15 1976
PROG strive RPOS+3S.POS AB+person AB+thing
striving after people's affairs

223.

eiy okor ekadaad ion wot engame ion Re 13:18 1976
3S.IND INTENS AB+CAUS+add INDF RPOS+3S.POS AB+person INDF
it really is a man's number

224.

mõ õ keweõei ororin me aibu ma ama ma aeoq emainibe,
& 3S.DEP CAUS+copy+APPL wall+3S.POS & NP+hundred & NP+forty & NP+four AB+cubit
ñea wõt eñame keweõ Re 21:17 1976
E+MED RPOS+3S.POS AB+person CAUS+copy
and he measured the wall of it and one hundred and forty four cubits, which is a man's measure

225.

amea keweweiy murana ororin me aibu me amma me aeoq emaenibe
male+MED CAUS+copy+APPL NEII+CL30[3]+MED wall+3S.POS & NP+one.hundred & NP+forty & NP+four AB+cubit
ngea at engame kewew Re 21:17 1976
E+MED GPOS+3S.POS AB+person CAUS+copy
He measured that wall (of it) and one hundred and forty four cubits, which is a man's measure

226.

otuwen at engame gar tsinin atsin eat emakur ebaka NB1
how GPOS+3S.POS AB+person flee from+3S.POS from+3S.POS on+3S.POS AB+work 3S.DEP+bad
how is a person's breaking free from bad practice

227.
at oniṅ kadeŀedeŀö NG187
GPOS+3S.POS AB+young CAUS+clean+1S.OBJ
a child's causing me to be clean

228.
at oniṅ kadeŀedeŀ ṅeij NG188
GPOS+3S.POS AB+young CAUS+clean E+3S.IND
a child's causing himself to be clean

(See the study 'Nauruan Inverted Possessive Order in Alienable Possessive Phrases' www.academia.edu/5913008 by the present author)

12.2. Denasalization with the General and Relative Possessive Classifiers where the underlying meaning is 'belonging to', 'property of'.

When the General and Relative Possessive Classifiers carry the meaning 'belonging to', 'property of' , denasalization is triggered when followed by an initial high vowel.

Examples:

229.
bwe wõt edeten eõ toki me eõ toki Ge 9:12
for RPOS+3S.POS AB+generation+CONS NEG end & NEG end
for it belongs to never ending gerations

230.
Jakob ogiten õbũ imin memak ñana wõt etõñida Ge 31:1
Jacob COMPL take AB+thing all E+MED RPOS+3S.POS father+1P.INCL.POS
Jacob had taken all the things that belonged to our father / that were our father's

231.
Rahel eñan teraphim wõt etõñin Ge 31:19
Rachel steal teraphim RPOS+3S.POS father+3S.POS
Rachel stole the teraphim belonging to her father

232.
emek wama geld memak inimen ama bag, wõt eñame ion
3S.DEP+dwell RPOS+1P.EXCL.POS money all LOC+mouth+CONS GPOS+1P.EXCL.POS bag RPOS+3S.POS AB+person INDF
ian an bag me wõt eñame ion ian an bag
in+3S.POS GPOS+3S.POS bag & RPOS+3S.POS AB+person INDF in+3S.POS GPOS+3S.POS bag
ian ama bag memak Ge 43:21
in+3S.POS GPOS+1P.INCL.POS bag all
there was all our gold at the opening of our bags, belonging to one man in his bag and belonging to another in his bag, in all our bags

233.
ochsen ñana wõt etõñũm Judg 6:25
oxen E+MED.P RPOS+3S.POS father+2S.POS
the oxen that belong to your father / the oxen that were your father's

234.
waea ma arumen wõt arõen Benjamin 2Sa 2:15
ten.ANIM & NP+two+ANIM RPOS+3S.POS AB+tribe Benjamin
twelve men of Benjamin's tribe/twelve men belonging to the tribe of Benjamin

235.
õten, aña tubwi'[71] robar ion ñea wõt ibwibwin Juda? 2Sa 3:8
TAG 1S.IND head+CONS dog INDF E+MED RPOS+3S.POS descendent+RED+CONS Judah
am I the head of a dog that belongs to the descendents of Judah?

236.
harfen me psaltern ñana wõt amen riañ 1Ki 10:12
harps & psalters E+MED.P RPOS+3S.POS male.for sing
harps and stringed instruments that belonged to the singers

237.
wõt amen erow 1Ki 10:15
RPOS+3S.POS male.for exchange
belonging to the traders

238.
bwe at eñame ñea eta 2Ki 6:5
for GPOS+3S.POS AB+person E+MED AB+ax
for the axe, it belonged to a man

239.
iwim in jiũiow ñana wõt eñame memak ñabũn amen ean eb ia 2Ki 16:15
AB+offering CONS burn E+MED.P RPOS+3S.POS AB+person all E+ANIM.P+ male.for on+3S.POS land MED
the burnt offerings that belong to all the people who are the local people

240.
tekei at eponñame 2Ki 17:11
like GPOS+3S.POS nation
like the nations' belongings

241.
e jiũiowet chariot ñana wõt equan 2Ki 23:11
3S.DEP burn+PERF AB+chariot E+MED.P RPOS+3S.POS AB+sun
he then burned the chariots belonging to [dedicated to] the sun

242.
eñan bet Malkom ñea wõt ibwibwin Ammon 2Ki 23:13
AB+place also Malkom E+MED RPOS+3S.POS descendent+RED+CONS Ammon
also the place of Malchom that was belongied to the descendents of Ammon

243.
aũra wak an bagadugu ñea temoniba ta tsitobo wõt etsin
GPOS+3P.POS house GPOS+3S.POS ancestor E+MED lord only similar RPOS+3S.POS sibling+3S.POS
ñea kanũmũrin 1Chr 24:31
E+MED not.firstborn
the houses of the ancestors of the chief were similar to his younger brother's

244.

eimwi bwe enim ta wam, me deõ wõt eratequõ epo aw Pr5:17
right for 3S.DEP+MOD ONLY RPOS+2S.POS & only+NEG RPOS+3S.POS AB+foreigner with to+2S.OBJ
it is right that it should be only yours, and it is not belonging to the strangers with you

245.

wõt eñame ekeweõei deden bũriõũn Pr 16:1
RPOS+3S.POS AB+person AB+CAUS+copy+APPL ways+CONS heart+3S.POS
It belongs to a man the plans of the ways of the heart

246.

ñea eñan wõt etõñin mi inen imin Pr 28:24
E+MED steal RPOS+3S.POS father+3S.POS & mother+3S.POS AB+thing
the one who robs his father's and mother's belongings

247.

i nan ñaina bet bwe wõt eñame ñea eõ makurei Ecc 2:21
UNR leave also for RPOS+3S.POS AB+person E+MED NEG work+APPL
he will leave it also as the property of a man who has not worked on it

248.

quat eb ei wõt eñame memak Ecc 5:9
fruit+CONS AB+land 3S.IND RPOS+3S.POS AB+person all
the fruitage of the earth belongs to all men

249.

amwa nan ijeiji atsin ean wõt eponñame Is 61:6
2P.DEP UNR eat from+CONS on+CONS RPOS+3S.CONS AB+nation
you will feed out from the nations belongings

250.

deõ wõt eñame ñea edũgidugo bwe enimõ õeimwi ereãn ijõñin Je10:23
only+NEG RPOS+3S.POS AB+person E+MED 3S.DEP+walk for 3S.DEP+MOD FAC+right extend+3S.GER below+3.SPOS
it does not belong to man who is walking that he should make straight his footsteps

251.

adaga naga aura riow eat traditio wot engab ngago mewak Matt 15:2 1976
why directly GPOSS+3P.POS transgress on+3S.POS tradition RPOS+3S.POS AB+old TEMP+DIST long.ago
why their transgressing traditions belonging to the elders of past times

252.

eo eimwi ia ebaru bita brot wot oning me ia eoraiya
NEG right COND 3S.DE+take NEIII+MED bread RPOS+3S.POS AB+child & COND 3S.DEP+cast.off
ngamuna [sic; ngabuna] ngain rober Matt 15:26 1976
E+ANIM.P+MED child+CONS dog
it is not right that he takes the bread belonging to the children and that he throws it to the puppies

253.

wo eõ ekeiduwet imin ñana wõn Gott, bwi ta imin ñana wõt eñame Matt 16:23
2S.DEP NEG attend.to AB+thing E+MEDP RPOS+3S.POS God for only AB+thing E+MED.P RPOS=3S.POS AB+person
you do not give attention to the things belonging to God, but just to the things belonging to men

254.

amea Demoniba nim omogur at eirumena, me tuk ngaga
male+MED Lord MOD FAC+work GPOS+3S.POS female+two+ANIM+MED & still TEMP+MED
me amea inan eatow uror Matt 21:3 1976
& male+MED UNR leave 3D.IND
The Lord must assign work belonging to those two (mother donkey and colt) and straight away he will release them

255.

ian bita eoag wot eratekwo Lu 2:7 1976
in+3S.POS NEIII+MED AB+house RPOS+3S.POS AB+stranger
in the house for strangers [hostel]

256.

ri nan meta ; ñabūna re ririñ ñea omo, ea irida ñea wõt itsimor ;
3P.DEP UNR go.out E+ANIM.P+MED 3P.DEP do E+MED good to+3S.POS AB+stand.up E+MED RPOS+3S.POS AB+live
me ñabūna re ririñ ñea ebaka, ea irida ñea wõt ōbabaka John 5:29
they will come out – those ones who did what is good to a resurrection belonging to life, and those ones who did bad to a resurrection that belongs to condemnation

257.

ro otow ian bita ekarabudi wot edoger ura Ac 5:18 1976
3P.DEP bring in+3S.POS NEIII+MED AB+jail RPOS+3S.POS AB+law 3P.OBJ
they brought them into the lawful prison/prison belonging to the law

258.

bita tempel okor wot eita Diana Ac 19:27 1976
NEIII+MED temple INTENS RPOS+3S.POS female+MED Diana
the actual temple belonging to Diana

12.3. Denasalization when the Perfective Aspect Suffix is suffixed to the General and Relative Possessive Classifiers.

When the Perfective Aspect Suffix is suffixed to the General and Relative Possessive Classifiers denasalization occurs.

i.e.

wõn + en > wõten

Example:

258a.
me wõten amea edũ 1Ki 2:15
& RPOS+3S.POS+PERF male+MED sibling+1S.POS
and it has become my brother's/ and it is now my brother's

258b.
me wõten waña temoniba epowi n imin gōgōrō Ge 47:18
& RPOS+3S.POS+PERF RPOS+1S.POS lord AB+heap CONS AB+thing run+RED
and they are now his the animal herds of my lord

258c.
ñabũna wõten eponñame Gott ñage 1Pe 2:10
E+ANIM.P+MED RPOS+3S.POS+PERF AB+nation God TEMP+PROX
those ones are now God's nation

258d.
woten amea ititao me oaeoun Re 1:6 1976
RPOS+3S.POS+PERF male+MED AB+glory & strong+3S.POS
it is now his the glory and the might

13. Other cases of Denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by a high vowel.

There are other instances of denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by a high vowel.

a. When followed by a family relationship noun. As with other aspects of Nauruan grammar, relationship nouns which have no intrinsic gender attached to them such as /etsin/ are male by default, unless specified by context or gender indicators.

b. It is triggered by word-final /n/ when followed by /eatin/ 'from', and /eamen/ 'male.for' - these usually appear as /atsin/ and /amen/.

c. It is triggered when followed by ome of the Female Demonstratives.

d. It is triggered when followed by the Classificatory Indefinite Determiner.

e. It is triggered when followed by /iwugaga/ and /ijugaga/ 'middle'.

f. It is triggered when followed by /inon/ 'others' and /ibun/ 'some'.

g. It is triggered when followed by /ekegen/ 'what'.

13.1. Followed by a relationship noun.

259.
ar õreñõte**t** **e**tõñũrõr wein ñag õbum Ge 19:33
3D.DEP FAC+drink+COM+PERF father+3D.POS wine TEMP+ night
they made their father to drink wine when night

260.
etsi**t** **i**nõm Ge 28:2
sibling+3S.CONS mother+2S.POS
the brother of your mother

261.
Rahel ñea ñain Laban ñea etsi**t** **ã**ita inen Ge 29:10
Rachel E+MED child+CONS Laban E+MED sibling+CONS mother+3S.POS
Rachel who was the child of Laban who was the brother of his (Jacob's) mother

262.
etsi**t** **e**tõñin Ge 29:12
sibling+CONS father+3S.POS
the brother of her father

263.
ei age**t** **e**tsi**t** **e**tõñum Le 18:14
3S.IND spouse+CONS sibling+CONS father+2S.POS
she is the wife of the brother of your father

264.
tsin ia eñame ion emwi**t** **e**tsit ãn, ñea ñai**t** **e**tõñin, õa
COND AB+person INDF 3S.DEP+call sibling+CONS AB+female E+MED child+CONS father+3S.POS or
ñea ñai**t** **i**nen Le 20:17
E+MED child+CONS mother+3S.POS
if a man calls for his sister, who is the child of his father, or the child of his mother

265.
ãita age**t** **e**tsin enimõ naña eow ian men amebũna eñab Deu 25:9
female+MED spouse+CONS sibling+3S.POS 3S.DEP+MOD go.to DIR in+CONS eye+CONS male+ANIM.P+MED AB+old
the wife of his brother must go before the elders

266.
nat agada gait eñame ñea õeko wou**t** **e**tõñin mi inen Deu 27:16
UNR rest.on woe+CONS AB+person E+MED FAC+be.not value+CONS father+3S.POS & mother+3S.POS
it will rest on him the woes of a man who makes to be nothing the value of his father and mother / woe to the man who treats with contempt his father and mother

267.
erig etsit eñame bwō õeõgidaen gai**t** **e**tsin Pr 17:17
3S.DEP+come.into.being sibling+CONS AB+person for FAC+rest.upon woe+CONS sibling+3S.POS
a man's brother is born for his brother's (times of) woes

268.
amwaim eke gamiã ñai**t** **e**tõñimiã Matt 5:45
2P.DEP+MOD make 2P.OBJ child+CONS father+2P.POS
make yourselves/become sons of your father

269.
eko marũmũmiã itũri**t** **e**tõñimiã Matt 6:1
be.not reward+2P.POS by+3S.POS father+2P.POS
there is no reward for you with your father

270.
ian me**t** **e**dũm Matt 7:3
in your brother's eye
in+3S.POS eye+CONS sibling+2S.POS
in your brother's eye

271.
ae**t** **E**tõñũ Matt 7:21
word+CONS father+1S.POS
the word of my father

272.
tamo ñea añañõ**t** **e**tsin ei amen abab ñame 1John 3:15
any E+MED hate+RED+COM sibling+3S.POS 3S.IND male.for kill+RED person
whoever hates his brother is a murderer

13.2. Followed by /eatin/ and /eamen/.

273.
ian met **a**men ekom Matt 5:25
in+CONS eye+CONS male.for judge
before the magistrates

274.
bwe e nim õijõ**t** **a**men makur ea an inedet Matt 9:38
for 3S.DEP MOD send.out male.for work to GPOS+3S.POS harvest
so that he may send workers for his harvest

275.
ñea oquorida amen omo ian eget **a**men omo, i nan õgõg marũmwi**t** **a**men omo Matt 10:41
E+MED 3S.DEP+receive man.of 3S.DEP+good in+CONS name+CONS man.of 3S.DEP+good UNR get reward+CONS male.of 3S.DEP+good
the one who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man will get a righteous man's reward

276.
e nuawe**t** **a**tsin ina Matt 11:1
3S.DEP go+PERF from+CONS there
he then went from there

277.
daña**t** **a**men kepo geld temoniba Matt 11:19
companion+CONS male.for CAUS+gather.together money lord
the companion of the money-collector of the lord

Note:
The spelling /eamen/ only occurs twice in the 1918 Bible. /amen/ is standard. But the denasalization of a preceding final /n/ shows that he underlying form is /e̯amen/.
The spelling /eatssin/ does not occur in the 1918 Bible. /atsin/ is the standard. But the denasalization of a preceding final /n/ shows that the underlying form is /e̯atsin/.

13.3. Followed by a Female Demonstrative.

278.
ñaga Laban õkaiõt añõgen Jakob ñea ñai**t** **ã**ita etsin Ge 29:13
TEMP+MED Laban 3S.DEP+hear word+CONS Jacob E+MED child+CONS female+MED sibling+3S.POS
when Laban heard about Jacob the son of his sister

279.
ege**t** **ã**ita ebowab bwe Lea, me ege**t** **ã**ita ekanũmũr bwe Rahel Ge 29:16
name+CONS female+MED AB+firstborn for Leah & name+CONS female+MED following-child for Rachel
the name of the firstborn (daughter) was Leah and the name of the following (daughter) was Rachel

280.
me ebeirañ me**t** **ã**ita Lea Ge 29:17
& 3S.DEP+dull eye+CONS female+MED Leah
and Leah's eyes were dull

281.
me õa**t** **ã**itun am tsio Judg 19:19
& foodstuffs+CONS female+MED GPOS+2S.POS servant
And foodstuffs of your female servant

282.
ekarig ñea Jehova nan oija aw eow itũri**t** **ã**itune dedemaro Ruth 4:12
AB+CAUS+come.into.being E+MED Jehovah UNR give to+2S.OBJ DIR by+CONS female+PROX youth
offspring that Jehovah will give to you through this youth (female)

283.
David õrig Solomon eow itũri**t** **ã**ita ñea agen Uria ñago Matt 1:6
David FAC+come.into.being Solomon DIR by+CONS female+MED E+MED spouse+CONS Uriah TEMP+DIST
David begot Solomon through that woman who was previously Uriah's wife

13.4. Followed by the Classificatory Indefinite Determiner.

284.
aijūra ran candelabrum atsin eat erũrũ**t e**ran Ex 5:32
NP+three+CL30[3] branch+CONS candelabra from+CONS on+CONS AB+side INDF+CL30[3]
three branches of the candelabrum out from its one side

285.
ipu**t e**ran gold ñarana ata schekel roin Nu 7:20
AB+spoon INDF+CL30[3] gold E+CL30[3]+MED NP+ten shekel heavy+3S.POS
a golden spoon that is ten shekels its weight

286.
aquarat iwūgaga**t e**bwetsin ñamweta leder Matt 3:4
binding+CONS waist+CONS INDF+CL7[18/19] E+CL7[18/19]+MED leather
binding of his waist which was leather [i.e. leather belt]

287.
eñi**t e**ran oaio Matt 8:24
wind INDF+CL30[3]
a strong wind

288.
ñea ekam ekeiduwe**t e**ket eñame ñea ebak wõn imin ea[32c] eñame ñea eko wõn imin Job 34:19
E+MED NEG care INDF+CL20[21] AB+person E+MED many RPOS+3S.POS AB+thing than AB+person E+MED be.not RPOS+3S.POS AB+thing
the one who does not pay attention more (to) the person having many thing than to the person having nothing

13.5. Followed by /iwugaga/ and /ijugaga/.

289.
wo aeõñ magit eraitsi**t i**jugagait ijited Eze 27:25
2S.DEP increase exhaust+CONS AB+glory middle+CONS AB+sea
you have increased the most of the glory in the middle of the seas

290.
mõ õbakoro**t** **i**wũgaga'[71] reijet tempel Lu 23:45
& 3S.DEP+break.apart+PERF middle+CONS curtain+CONS temple
and then they tore apart the middle of the curtain of the temple

291.
e barũ etaul eran, mo oquaraiõ**t** **i**wugagan John 13:4
3S.DEP take AB+towel INDF+CL30[3] & wrap+APPL+COM middle+3S.POS
he took a towel and wrapped it around his waist

13.6. Followed by /inon/ and /ibun/.

292.
rõ õrre amen ma**t i**bũn Matt 2:1
3PDEP come male.for wise some
some wise men came

293.
enim kan edua ekarawi**t i**non Le 6:11
3S.DEP+MOD again dress AB+garment others
he should dress gain (with) other garments

13.7. Followed by /ekegen/.

294.
bait ekägen? NG193
object+CONS what
for what?

295.
eat ekägen? NG193
on+CONS what
by what?

13.8. Followed by /eõ/.

The Negative Particle /eõ/ does not usually trigger denasalization, but if it forms part of a compound noun, then the word final /n/ of the preceding word is denasalized.

Examples:

296.
ea**t** **e**õ bainei aeõ omo ñea õñaũn eat edogor Philippians 3:9
on+CONS NEG compliment+APPL GPOS+1.POS good E+MED come.from on+CONS AB+law
by not complimenting my righteousness which comes by the Law

297.
e nim kõñõñ iat itũeb ia**t** **e**õ kamwarar ia aigetow Jas 1:6
3S.DEP MOD request+RED in+CONS AB+believe in+CONS NEG doubt COND little
he should petition repeatedly in faith in not doubting at all

298.
bwe ñea eõ quedei eñame, inan mwit añõgetow ia**t** **e**õ quedei Jas 2:13
for E+MED NEG favour+APPL AB+person UNR separate word+CONS+DIR in+CONS NEG favour+APPL
for the one who did not have mercy for man, his judgment will be in not mercy (without mercy)

299.
e nim õmeata an makur eow ean an mek ñea omo
3S.DEP MOD show GPOS+3S.POS work DIR on+CONS GPOS+3S.POS dwell E+MED 3S.DEP+good
ia**t** **e**õ quinõñõg me eman Jas 3:13
in+CONS NEG confront & AB+wise
he should show his works by his good living in mildness and wisdom

300.
bwe togi**t** **e**õ earañame Temoniba mo o oqued Jas 5:10
for end+CONS NEG harsh Lord & 3S.DEP FAC+favour
for the Lord is very kind and and shows mercy

301.
re tsiriwa eow ean aen Gott ia**t** **e**õ-etaraba 1Pe 2:8
3P.DEP stumble DIR on+CONS word+CONS God in+CONS NEG AB+only+obey
they stumble by the word of God in disobediance

302.
amwaim õnei ia**t** **e**õ quinõñõg mi imiow 1Pe 3:15
2P.DEP+MOD answer in+CONS NEG confront & AB+fear
you should answer in mildness and fear

13.9 Followed by /eaeoweaeow/.

Denasalization is triggered by the expression /eaeoweaeow/ NG192 ‘so further on’, ‘on and on (into the future)’. The initial vowel is deleted:

Examples:

302a.
jamet aeoweaeow NG192
future on.and.on
in all eternity

302b.
rõ kekepo ijorat aeoweaeow Ex 16:21
3P.DEP CAU+gather+RED in.the.morning on.and.on
they gathered it morning by morning

302c.
amea prophet ngea t'eo eiy nan moga yobum me yaran
male+MED prophet E+MED only+NEG 3S.IND UNR suffer by.night & by.day
yamwet aeoweaeow Re 20:10 1976
future on.and.on
suffer the prophet who is not, he will sufffer night and day in all eternity

13.10 Followed by Unrealized Aspect /inan/.

303a.
ñagat inan gapaedaei Zion tekei etañ in kião bwe dõgimiã Mi 3:12
therefore UNR plow.up+APPL Zion like AB+place CONS cultivate for reason+2P.POS
therefore Zion will be plowed up like a cultivated field because of you

303b.
ijarat inan gataw anom Matt 6:30
by.day UNR throw+DIR9 ADV+oven
by day/tomorrow it will be thrown in the oven

304.
ijarat inan gataw anãe Lu 12:28
by.day UNR throw+DIR9 AVD+fire
by day/tomorrow it will be thrown into the fire

14. Denasalization of word-final /n/ when the Perfective Aspect Suffix is attached.

The Perfective Aspect Suffix /en/ triggers denasalization of a word-final /n/ to which it is attached.

Examples:

305.
wo õten quan mũena imin erõ Ge 3:11 [õn + en > õten]
2S.DEP eat+PERF fruit+CONS NEII+CL27[6]+MED AB+thing 3S.DEP+grow
you have already eaten the fruit of that tree

306.
Enerõtet epowi n ochsen Joel 1:18 [nerõn + en > nerõten]
3S.DEP+thin+PERF AB+heap CONS oxen
the herd of oxen became gaunt

307.
e edegeriõten agen Matt 1:24 [edegeriõn + en > edegeriõten]
3S.DEP follow+COM+PERF spouse+3S.POS
and he then was accompanied by his wife/he then took with him his wife

308.
mõ õ õijõten an ñame Matt 2:16 [õijõn + en > õijõten]
& 3S.DEP send.out+PERF GPOS+3S,POS person
and he then sent out his servants

309.
me ewõñõten ñage ñeijina ã patow itũrin
& 3S.DEP+success+COM+PERF TEMP+PROX E+CL11[7]+MED 3S.DEP speak+DIR by+CONS
prophet Jeremia Matt 2:17 [wõñõn + en > wõñõten]
prophet Jeremiah
and at this time it was already brought to success the word which was spoken through the prophet Jeremiah

310.
etũreten an orre monibain ianweron Matt 3:2 [tũren + en > tũreten]
3S.DEP+close GPOS+3S.POS come rule+CONS heaven
the coming of the kingdom of the heavens has now drawn near

311.
e eo rewiten Matt 3:15 [rewin + en > rewiten]
3S.DEP NEG hinder
he did not then hinder him

312.
tik naga ma akõdaten ian ebõk Matt 3:16 [akõdan + en > akõdaten]
still directly & go.up+DIR8+PERF in+CONS AB+water
immediately he then came up out of the water

313.
diabolos õñaũniten Matt 4:11 [ñaũnin + en > ñaũniten]
Devil 3S.DEP+leave.from+PERF
the Devil then went from him

314.
e emwiten ũrõr Matt 4:21 [emwin + en > emwiten]
3S.DEP call.for 2D.OBJ
he then called the two of them

315.
õpõpat evangelium in monibain Matt 4:23 [põpan + en > põpaten]
3S.DEP+speak+RED+PERF evangel CONS rule+3S.POS
he then preached the evangel of his kingdom

316.
ñag e eduten eat etowedũdũ Matt 8:1 [edun + en> eduten]
TEMP+MED 3S.DEP come.down on+CONS AB+mountain
when he had come down from the mountain

317.
õ patet eroga apoin[74] see Matt 8:18 [pan + en > paten]
3S.DEP speak AB+go.up east+CONS sea
he then commanded the going up to the east of the sea

318.
mõ ũdõtet dõgin mũñana imin Lu 15:26 [ũdõn + en > ũdõten]
&+S.DEP question+PERF reason+CONS NEII+E+MED.P AB+thing
and then questioned him about those things

319.
tuk oiyon ion ekae me aiyimeten Lu 20:12 1976 [aiyimen + PERF > aiyimeten]
still send.out INDF 3S.DEP+different & NP+three+ANIM+PERF
again he sent out a different one, it was now three men (sent out)

320.
imiten NG167 [imin + en > imiten]
AB+thing+PERF
now it became a thing

321.
mürübeduten ituga NG184 [mürübedun + en > mürübeduten]
lightning+DIR2+PERF above
it is lightning from above

As can be seen, not only are root verbs and noun fith word final /n/ denasalizaed by so are the Comitative/Instrumental Suffix /õn/ and directional suffixes with word final /n/ attached to verbs.

It is also seen in the fixed compound used as the Completive Aspect Marker:

og + in + en > ogiten
finish+CONS+PERF

322.
ñaga Gott ogiten metemetsi ũra Matt 2:12
TEMP+MED God COMPL warn 3P.IND
when God had warned them

15. Denasalization of word-final /n/ when followed by the Directional Particle /eow/.

Denasalization of word-final /n/ is triggered when followed by the Directional Particle /eow/. The initial vowel of /eow/ is dropped:

323.
e iwiwidõ me ã õgõg dedetow itũrin Job 37:12
3S.DEP turn.around+RED & 3S.DEP take.hold manner+3S.POS+DIR by+3S.POS
it is turned around and they take hold of his manner through him
[deden + eow > dedetow]

324.
mi nan oquetow añe wam kad eow eat wein etsimeduw Pr 3:10
& UNR FAC+fill+DIR on.the.ground RPOS+2P.POS vat DIR on+CONS wine 3S.DEP+new
and will full onto the ground your vats with new wine
[oquen + eow > oquetow]

325.
bwe enim ewõñõn aet Temoniba ñeijina ã patow
for 3S.DEP+MOD SUC+COM word+CONS Lord E+CL11[7]+MED 3S.DEP speak+DIR
itũrin amea prophet Matt 1:22
by+CONS male+MED prophet
so that she should bring to success by it the word of the Lord which word was spoken through the prophet
[pan + eow > patow]

326.
mõ õ õijõtow ũra i Bethlehem Matt 2:8
& 3S.DEP send.out+DIR 3P.IND to Bethlehem
and he sent them out to Bethlehem
[õijõn + eow > õijõtow]

With the gerundive suffixes, the /eow/ is attached to the gerundive suffix if the emphasis is on the place or direction (the initial vowel of /eow/ is deleted):

327.
ọuga panätow inno NG182 [panän + eow > panätow]
be.so speak+GER.3S+DIR yonder
so it is told *there*

With the gerundive, the /eow/ is attached to the verb stem and the gerundive suffix follows if the emphasis is the verbal action:

328.
oụga patow än inno NG182
be.so speak+DIR GER.3S yonder
so *it is told* there
[pan + eow + än, GER.3S > patowän]

Where the emphasis is on the verbal action, the gerundive form with the /eow/ attached can, in turn, have a further directional /eow/ suffixed to it followed by the agent of the action:

329.
oụga patowätow itürin ṅabụna prophet NG182
be.so speak+DIR+GER.3S+DIR by+CONS E+ANIM.P+MED prophet
so *it is said* by those prophets
[pan + eow + än, GER.3S + eow > patowätow]

330.
oụga oijotowätow itürin amea töṅin NG182
be.so send.out+DIR+GER.3S+DIR by+CONS male+MED father+3S.POS
so he has been sent by his father

16. Denasalization of word-final /ñ/ with the Success Suffix /wõñ/ when the Perfective Aspect Suffix is attached.

The Success Suffix /wõñ/ undergoes denasalization of the final /ñ/ when followed by the Perfective Aspect Suffix.

Examples:

331.

edegeriwoṅ NG4	edegeriwoṅ + en > edegeriwoten NG4
follow and catch up	follow and just now succeed in catching up
edegeriwoṅ NG179	edegeriwoṅ + en > edegeriwoten NG179
overtake	now he overtakes

332.

w eö gorowoṅ NG4	w eö gorowoṅ + en > gorowoten NG4
you came too late	you did not succeed in arriving in time

333.

kamarareijwoṅ NG179	kamarareijwoṅ + en > kamarareijwoten NG179
think a thing out	now he has thought it out successfully

334.

e towõten witsin mwin amanin amea ñain Ex 4:25
3S.DEP cut+SUC+PERF skin+CONS top+CONS male.member+CONS male+MED child+3S.POS
She cut off the skin of the top of her son's male member

335.

ngaga etiok okwor woten amo amea ngea oaeo? Matt 12:29 1976
TEMP+MED PREINC bind SUC+PERF first male+MED E+MED strong
when he has not yet first successfully bound the strong man?

336.

ngaga ro kaiyot ngana[73] dimwa-woten mura ngabuna Sadducea Matt 22:34 1976
TEMP+MED 3P.DEP hear E+MED.P close SUC+PERF mouth+3P.POS E+ANIM.P+MED Saducees
when they heard that he had successfully shut the mouth of the Saducees/he had silenced the Saducees, they then gathered together

337.
rõ kamarar, me re rouwõten ũbwiet amen ririñ iwũr epe Matt 27:7
3P.DEP think & 3P.DEP exchange+SUC+PERF home+CONS male.for do AB+vessel AB+stone
they thought it over and they then bought the potter's property

338.
togin bwe re etiok kamarareiy woten nuwawin mungana brot
reason+3S.POS for 3P.DEP PREINC think+APPL SUC+PERF concerning+CONS NE+MED.P bread
ngaga oruwen marora Mark 6:52 1976
TEMP+MED harden+PERF mind+3P.POS
because they had not yet thought through concerning the loaves since their minds were hardened

339.
e eõ abiweten 2Ki 11:2
3S.DEP NEG slay+SUC+PERF
he did not then slay him

The same pattern is followed when the Success Suffix assumes the qualities of a verb.

340.
a woṅ NG179 a woten NG179
I am successful I was successful

341.
ediedu bun kamie, a eo kouge ian burio
sibling+RED+1S.POS ANIM.P+MED 2P.OBJ 1S.DEP NEG CAU+be.so in+CONS heart+1S.POS
ngana[73] a woten Philippians 3:13 1976
E+MED.P 1S.DEP SUC+PERF
brothers! I have not said in my heart that I have been successful

P.S. The suffix /wõñ/ in its denasalized form - i.e. /wõt/ - can appear in a reduced form as /wet/.

P.P.S. The Success Suffix also appears with the form /quoṅ/ NG179

When the Success Suffix is associated with a verb governing the indirect object , if the indirect object is non-singular the Success Suffix occurs between the adposition /ea, a/ and the objective personal pronoun, i.e.

342.
a pan a woten kamie NG179
1S.DEP speak to SUCC+PERF 2P.OBJ
now I have managed to tell you

343.
ngaga doganigae a woten ura eow ean okor ngeiy[26] Col 2:15 1976
TEMP+MED triumph to SUC+PERF 3P.IND DIR on+3S.POS INTENS E+3S.IND
when he had successfully triumphed over them by means of him

17. Denasalization of word-final /ñ/ with the Success Suffix /wõñ/ when followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker.

When the Success Suffix /wõñ/ is followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker, the final /ñ/ is denasalized.

Examples:

344.
ṙiṙiṅwoṅ + ibaka > ṙiṙinwot ibaka NG179
do evil successfully

When the Success Suffix is followed by the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker attached to a vowel-initial noun, the Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is deleted, i.e.

345.
o̲go̲gewoṅ + eanakiwui > o̲go̲gewot anakiwui NG179
knock open a coconut

18. Denasalization of word-final /ñ/ with the Success Suffix /wõñ/ when followed by the Directional Particle /eow/.

When the Success Suffix /wõñ/ is followed by the Directional Particle /eow/, the final /ñ/ is denasalized.

346.
beiwoṅ NG4 beiwotow Naoero NG4
reach reach Nauru

347.
me e ibawetowen ean towedudu n Gilead Ge 31:23
& 3S.DEP catch+SUC+DIR+PER on+CONS mountain CONS Gilead
and he caught up with him in the mountains of Gilead

348.
tsin ia amen uñai era eibawetow iruwin mwiten an ekawa n tsimor Nu 35:27
CONS male.for avenge+APPL AB+blood 3S.DEP+catch+SUC+DIR after edge+CONS GPOS+CONS city CONS live
if the avenger of blood catches up with him outside the boundaries of his city of refuge

349.
bwa ñam ã imewetow auwe ean bwe imin ñan ouwak miowetow
for lest 3S.DEP snare+SUC+DIR 2S.IND on+3S.POS for AB+thing E+MED.P+ big fear+GER.3S+DIR
itũrin Jehova ñea wam Gott mũñane Deu 7:25
by+CONS Jehovah E+MED RPOS+2S.POS God NEII+E+PROX.P
lest you are successfully ensnared by it for these things are things of great fear by Jehovah your God

350.

eko engame ngea enim tiyo wotow iturit demoniba arumen Matt 6:24 1976
be.not AB+person E+MED 3S.DEP+MOD serve SUC+DIR by+CONS lord NP+two+ANIM
there is no man who may successfully serve two lords

351.

kakaiyot on wong mungana yingora me tiet wotow ian burioura Matt 13:15 1976
hear+RED COM SUC NEII+E+MED.P ear+3P.POS & know SUC+DIR in+CONS heart+3P.POS
successfully hear with their ears and successfully know in their hearts

352.

bwe re nim otow wotow iat ima Matt 27:1
for 3P.DEP MOD bring SUC+DIR in+CONS AB+die
so that they should put him to death

353.

eo oiyot inna wotow eat imit inon ngangene, bwe ita eat edetaro
NEG send.out there SUC+DIR on+CONS AB+thing others E+CL26[27]+PROX for only on+CONS AB+pray
me eat eo nganamwi Mark 9:29[28]
& on+CONS NEG sated
they are not successfully expelled by other thigs except by prayer and by fasting

19. Lack of Denasalization of word-final /n/ followed by a high vowel.

Denasalization of word-final /n/ is lacking when followed by a high vowel in the following circumstances:

19.1. word-final /n/ of /inan/ Unrealized Aspect, followed by a high vowel (but see Sections 11.1. and 11.2.).

354.
bwi i nan edededegeri memak barũõm ian obwõm Deu 6:19
for UNR chase all enemy+2S.POS in+CONS front+2S.POS
for he will chase all your enemies from before you

19.2. word-final /n/ of /ogiten/ Completive Aspect, followed by a high vowel.

355.
Sarah nan õrig aw eat edae ñea ã ogite**n i**dit Ge 17:21
Sarah will bear (a child) for you at the time that has been etsablished

356.
ei õkõr ãita ñea Jehova ogite**n ij** Ge 24:44
she truly is the woman Jehovah has chosen

357.
ñaga wo ogite**n e**õ eraban aen mwin Jehova 1Ki 13:21
TEMP+MED 2S.DEP COMPL NEG obey word+CONS mouth+CONS Jehovah
when you had not obeyed the word of Jehovah's mouth

358.
ñag o ogite**n e**ak baũin brot John 13:26
when he had dipped the bit of bread

359.
God ogite**n e**mwin gatta in meg in ieow 1Co 7:15 1976
God has called us to dwell in peace

19.3. word-final /n/ of /õren/ Immediative Aspect, followed by a high vowel.

360.
A õre**n e**wewin meõ Je 33:5
1S.DEP IMM conceal face+1S.POS
I have just now concealed my face

361.
amen ñawor rõ õre**n e**dun ian Lu 5:2
male.for fish 3P.DEP IMM go.down+DIR8 in+3S.POS
the fishermen had just then come down from it

362.
amebune ura ngabuna r ore**n e**rowiow bita ekarakaroe
male+ANIM.P+PROX 3P.IND E+ANIM.P+MED 3P.DEP IMM leave+DIR NEIII+MED AB+CAUS+heavy+RED
ngea ouwak Re 7:14 1976
E+MED big
these ones are those who have just now left the great tribulation

19.4. word-final /n/ followed by the Applicative Suffix /-ei, -eiy, -eij/.

363.
re eõ kamwine**nei** Ac 25:18
3P.DEP NEG CAUS+information+APPL
they did not provide evidence of it

364.
etsitobo ia ã wite**nei** Re 13:3
3S.DEP+similar COND 3S.DEP wound+3S.POS+APPL
it is similar to when one is wounded

19.5. word-final /n/ followed by adpositions, compound or simple

365.
bwin A ururedan **i**an ebõk Ex 2:10
for+there 1S.DEP draw.up+DIR8 in+CONS water
because I drew you up out from water

366.
e nimõ eak nanan **i**an eirin oliva Deu 33:24
3S.DEP MOD dip foot+3S.POS ian+CONS
let him dip his foot in the oil of olives

367.
amerumena Philippus me eunuch ar eduwen **i**an ebõk Ac 8:38
male+two+ANIM+MED Philip & eunuch 3D.DEP go.down in+CONS water
Phillip & the eunuch then went down into water

19.6. word-final /n/ followed by nouns with initial high vowel lacking Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker or loan words beginning with a high vowel.

368.
edegeriõ earuwei ean **e**b une Ge 24:5
follow+1S.OBJ towards.speaker on+CON land PROX
follows me into this land

369.
ian **e**irin oliva Deu 33:24
in+CONS oil+CONS olive
in the oil of the olive

370.
Jehova eõ mek ian **e**ñin 1Ki 19:11
Jehovah NEG dwell in+CONS wind
Jehovah does not dwell in the wind

371.
bwe ian **e**bak it erenimi etsimine imin ñan eko woun Ecc 5:7
for in+CONS many CONS AB+dream 3S.DEP+exist AB+thing E+MED.P+ be.not value+3S.POS
for in the abundance of dreams there is nothing of worth

372.
tsin iõ õbaite eñame ion ñea edũgidugo ia**n** **e**ñin mi iqui Mi 2:11
COND 3S.DEP+lie AB+person INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+walk in+CONS wind & AB+deception
if a man lies, one who is walking, in wind and deception

373.
medenan Jehova emek iat eapwir mi ia**n** **e**ñin ñaran edaurur Na 1:3
way+CONS Jehovah 3S.DEP+dwell in+CONS whirlwind & in+CONS wind E+CL30[3]+MED+ AB+storm
the pathway of Jehovah is in the whirlwind and in the storm

374.
ama õagagen gamiã ñago bwa amwaim eõ kereri ian eg une Ac 5:28
1P.EXC+DEP warn 2P.OBJ TEMP+DIST for 2P.DEP+MOD NEG CAUS+instruct in+CONS name PROX
we warned you before that you should not teach in this name

In the following examples, /ebõk/ is taken to be /bõk/ preceded by an epenthetic non-syllabic vowel or schwa due to the dispreferred sequence of sounds:

375.
A ururedan ian ebõk Ex 2:10
I drew you up from water

376.
tik ñaga ma akõdaten ian ebõk Matt 3:16
straight away coming up from water

377.
mõ rõ paroe eowen ian ebok Matt 8:32
and they then drowned in water

378.
me ebak an pudu anãe, me ebak an pudu ian ebõk Matt 17:15
and his falling in the fire is many/often and his falling in water is many/often

379.
amerumena Philippus me eunuch ar eduwen ian ebõk Ac 8:38
Philip and the eunuch then went down into water

19.7. word-final /n/ followed by most adverbs.

19.7.1. imũr later, afterwards

380.
eo ewuina imin imur Matt 5:13 1976
NEG fitting AB+thing later
It is not suitable for anything afterwards

381.
ngana re eab tuk eed men imur Ac 20:38 1976
E+MED.P 3P.DEP UNR.NEG still see face+3S.POS later
that they would not see his face afterwards

19.7.2. ine,ina,ino here, there, yonder/over there

382.
adaga, wo re eowen ine...? Matt 8:29
TAG 2S.DEP come DIR+PERF here
have you come here…?

383.
ri ta mawireiy atin ino ogoeow He 11:13 1976
3P.DEP only greet+APPL from+CONS yonder 3S.DEP+far
they wlcomed them from afar

19.7.3. iruw after, befind, outside

384.
pwijet ãe ejiũ mõ õekeow imin iruwũra Joel 2:3
flame+CONS AB+fire 3S.DEP+burn & FAC+be.not+DIR AB+thing behind+3P.POS
the flame of a fire burn and consumes things behind them

385.
wo nim õijõt ãita, bwi i ta aeuwaken iruwida Matt 15:23
2S.DEP MOD send.out female+MED for only cry.out+PERF after+1P.INC.POS
send her away because she has just cried after us

386.
eko ion ñea eõ miow iõ ũdõn iruwin ñabũmina Matt 22:46
be.not INDF E+MED NEG fear COND ask after+CONS E+CL5[11]+MED
there was ono-one that did not fear if asking after that day

387.
enimo dorer ion iruwin ion 1Co 14:27
3S.DEP+MOD speak INDF after+CONS INDF
let (them) speak one after the other

388.
eat ake ngana bwain iruwumar 2Co 7:5
on+CONS AB+fight E+MED.P object+CONS after+2D.EXC.POS
by conflicts that were the object outside of us

389.
ã jiũiow rabatan iruwit etañemek He 13:11
3S.DEP burn body+3S.POS after+CONS AB+camp
Its body is burnt outside of the camp

19.7.4. itañ beside, alongside, with

390.
me ongaeowen itangit eita agen Matt 1:24 1976
& 3S.DEP+place+DIR+PERF beside+3S.POS female+MED spouse
he then placed beside him his wife [and took unto him his wife KJV]

391.
ñain ion itañin Matt 21:2
child+CONS INDF beside+3S.POS
a child of hers beside her [context: a female donkey's colt]

392.
me inan oiya dubwangin itangin ngabuna eamen okanugo Matt 24:51 1976
& UNR give.to+3S portion+3S.POS beside+CONS E+ANIM.P+MED man.for 3S.DEP+deceive
and he will give his portion wih those hypocrites

393.
emegedan itañin mibũna itsiõ Matt 26:58
3S.DEP+sit.down+DIR8 beside+CONS NEI+ANIM.P+MED AB+serve
he then sat down beside the servants

19.7.5. itirũr alongside

394.
ã irieduen itirũrũt emedena ñea oñow Ephrath Ge 35:19
3S.DEP bury+PERF alongside+CONS AB+way E+MED 3S.DEP+go.to Ephrath
they then buried her alongside the way that goes to Ephrath

395.
ama baiweten itirurun Chios Ac 20:15
1P.EXC.DEP reach+SUC+PERF alongside+CONS Chios
we then reached alongside Chios

19.7.6. itũga above

19.7.7. itũr by, through, with

19.7.8. ijõñ below

396.
me ã irieduen ijõñin eiche Ge 35:8
& 3S.DEP bury+PERF under+CONS oak
and they then buried her under the oak

397.
deõ wõt eñame ñea edūgidugo bwe enimõ õeimwi ereãn ijõñin Je 10:23
only+NEG RPOS+3S.POS AB+person E+MED 3S.DEP+walk for 3S.DEP+MOD FAC+straight extend+3GER under+3S.POS
it does not belong to man who is walking that he should straighten his footsteps

19.7.9. iju, ijuw

398.
ama nan oija aw bet aita ion bwe pũmwen am makur ñea wo nan ririñ
1P.EXC+DEP UNR give to+2S.OBJ also female+MED INDF for reward+CONS GPOS+3S.POS work E+MED 2S.DEP UNR do
ame ean iju aeiu eobweni Ge 29:27
to+1S.DAT on+CONS more seven AB+year
we will give to you also a woman as recompense for your working that you will accomplish for me for seven more years

19.8. word-final /n/ followed by possessivized nouns (including construct; except see Section 13.1) or gerundives (except in association with /eow/, see Examples 327, 329, 330)

399.
bwa A nimo dorer a eow ian egõm Ex 5:23
for 1S.DEP MOD speak to+3S DIR in+CONS name+2S.POS
so that I should speak to him in your name

400.
me eijien ijorit ‘ũbwen Rahel ea[32d] ñabũmine Ge 35:20
& 3S.IND+PERF pillar+CONS grave+CONS Rachel until E+CL5[11]+PROX
and the pillar of Rachel’s grave is now present down to this day

401.
imin ñana re ewewõ ean ijõra Le 11:42
AB+thing E+MED.P 3P.DEP creep on+CONS belly+3P.POS
things that crawl on their bellies

402.
wa aña Nazarite ion ea Gott atsin ian ijet inõ Judg 16:17
for 1S.IND Nazarite INDF to+3S God from+CONS in+CONS womb+CONS mother+1S.POS
for I am a Nazarite for God from my mother’s womb

403.
wo nim eõ iraeõ n õrõweiõ ian egirowũm ñea oaio Ps 38:1
2S.DEP MOD NEG strike+1S.OBJ CONS rebuke+1S.OBJ in+CONS anger+2S.POS E+MED strong
you should not strike me rebuking me in your great anger

404.
mũ ũra memak re dũgidugo ian enõwewen bũriõũra ñea ebaka Je 11:8
& 3P.IND all 3P.DEP walk in+CONS hard+CONS heart+3P.POS E+MED 3S.DEP+bad
and all of them walk in the hardness of their evil hearts

405.
mi ian egaramwamwen anũbũmin Je 36:30
& in+CONS cold+CONS night-time
and in the cold at night
[/egaramwamwen/ is taken to be /garamamwen/ preceded by an epenthetic non-syllabic vowel or schwa due to the dispreferred sequence of sounds]

19.9. word-final /n/ followed by the Construct Particle /in/.

406.
a timoren in amea NG194
1S.DEP live+PERF CONS male+MED
I am now well off on account of that man
[the Perfective Aspect Suffix may also be attached after the Construct Particle: a timoriten amea 194 I am now well off on account of that man]

407.
schafe ngabun eko ngamen in ranga Matt 9:36 1976
sheep E+ANIM.P+MED+ be.not person+3S.POS CONS keep
sheep not having a custodian [shepherd]

19.10. Construct Particle /in/ followed by a high vowel

408.
aiju ebwer in ijeiji õbũrũbũr animwen tũbũ Ge 40:16

Except: if part of a Referential Noun Phrase.

408a.
eiñõñ it eñame Ex 32:17
sound CONS AB+ person
the noise of the people

19.11. word-final /n/ followed by Conditional Marker /ia/.

409.
amwaim eõ idit rõn ia emaen Ex 12:46
2P.DEP+MOD NEG breat bone+3S.POS COND INDF+CL21[4]
you must not break its bones even one

19.12. word-final /n/ followed by General Indefinite Determiner /ion/ (except see Section 11).

410.
A nimõ ririñ a buoken ion ñea eiwin a Ge 2:18
1S.DEO MOD do to+3S.POS help+GER+3S.POS INDF E+MED fitting to+3S.POS
I should perform for him an assistance that is appropriate to him

411.
amune tekeijien ion eadei Ge 3:22
male+PROX like+PERF IND on+1T.POS
this man have become like one of us

412.
egen ion bwe Ada Ge 4:19
name+3S.POS INDF for Adah
the name of one (was) Adah

413.
wo nimõ ririñ gadetsin ion bwi iaõin ian ark Ge 6:16
2S.DEP MOD do hole+3S.POS INDF for light+3S.POS in+CONS ark
you must make its hole as its light in the ark

414.
Sem me Japhet ar baru ekarawin ion Ge 9:23
Shem & Japheth 3D.DEP bring AB+garment INDF
Shem and Japheth brought a garment of his

19.13. word-final /n/ of 3rd Person Singular General and Relative Possessive Classifiers followed by a high vowel

415.
bwe wo nim õij mũñane ma aia wõn ijegen Ge 38:25
for 2S.DEP MOD test NEII+PROX.P & see RPOS+3S.POS who
so that you should test these things and see whose (they are)/it belongs to whom

415a.
ei an edar Gott Ex 32:16
3S.IND GPOS+3S.POS AB+write God
it is the writing of God

19.14. word-final /n/ followed by the negative particle /eõ/ (except see Section 13.8).

416.
i nan eõ eatow auwe Deu 4:31
UNR NEG leave 2S.IND
he will never forsake you

417.
etañ ñea wo nan mek ian eõ toki 1Ki 8:13
AB+place E+MED 2S.DEP UNR dwell in+CONS NEG end
the place in which you will dwell forever

418.
amwa ogiten õteda ãe ian egirowũ ñea nan eõ toki n pwij Je 17:4
2P.DEP COMPL kindle fire in+CONS anger+1S.POS E+MED UNR NEG end CONS burn
You have kindled a fire in my anger that will burn forever

19.15. word-final /n/ of Proper Nouns (Personal Names, geographic names) followed by a high vowel.

19.16. word-final /n/ between compound adpositions.

19.17. word-final /n/ followed by the 3rd Person Singular Dependent Pronoun (except see Examples 12 to 18).

19.18. word-final /n/ of a demontrative used as a relativizer followed by a high vowel.

19.19. Across phrase/clause boundaries.

20. Denasalization from earlier stages of Nauruan.

There is evidence that denasalization of word-final /n/ before high vowels has been a feature of Nauruan in past times.

21. Denasalization in the Demonstrative and Numeral domains of Nauruan.

The Nauruan Demonstrative and Numeral domains give evidence of denasalization in past stages of Nauruan.

22. Denasalization with the General Demonstrative Set.

In the Demonstrative regime of Nauruan, there is a simple form of the demonstrative (the Simple Form of the General Demonstrative Set) devoid of any prefixes, which was the original demonstrative; but there are also four separate prefixes that have over time fused with the simple form, resulting in a possible five forms of the General Demonstrative.

There is one emphatic prefix /ña-, nga-/, and there are three non-emphatic prefixes

min- or mit-
bit-
mũ-

The emphatic prefix element /ña-, nga-/ is found in various parts of the Oceanic family (Kiribati, North Ambrym, Mekeo among others) as an emphasizing or focusing element.

Of the three non-emphatic prefixes, the non-emphatic prefix evidencing denasalization is /min/. Denasalization with this set of demonstratives has already been touched on in Section 7.1.

The language of Satawal Atoll (western Caroline Islands, Federated States of Micronesia), a Micronesian sister language to Nauruan, has also developed a series of demonstratives incorporating /min/, ‘thing’, with the base forms of its demonstrative set.

Table 5. Some Satawalese 'min' demonstratives (adapted from Roddy 2007:67).

min- + demonstrative	Meaning
min-ne	something proximal to speaker in view of speaker and hearer
min-na	something proximal to the hearer in view of speaker and hearer
min-i-we	a definite object in mind but not in view of speaker or addressee
min-i-ka or mini-kka	de-emphasized objects near speaker
min-aan	that which is over there

In the case of Nauruan, the singular fused forms incorporating /min/ are used for both animate and inanimate subjects. Plural fused forms incorporating /min/ are only used for inanimate subjects. For plural animate subjects, Nauruan developed separate separate fused forms based on gender-focus and number, using different elements (Kayser's Nauru Grammar p.31).

Table 6. Nauruan General Demonstratives with the fused element /min/, singular set.

Proximity	Simple form of the Demonstrative, Singular (General Demonstrative Singular Set)	Augmented form of the General Demonstrative Singular Set	Simple Demonstrative fused with the element /min/ (Singular Non-Emphatic /min/ Set)	Meaning
Proximal	une	eune, iune	mitune Syncopated Form (unattested)	this (animate/inanimate) here
Medial	(una – unattested, but presumed present in an earlier form of Nauruan) ia[1]	(euna, iuna – unattested, but presumed present in an earlier form of Nauruan)	mituna Syncopated Form mita	that (animate/inanimate) there
Distal	uno	euno, iuno	mituno Syncopated Form (unattested)	that (animate/inanimate) yonder/over there

Note: [1] There is internal evidence of an historical form *una

Although at fist glance the singular forms of the Non-Emphatic min- Demonstrative Set seem irregular, the forms can be explained through the process of denasalization.

Two possible developments are given here for the /min/ forms.

Figure 3. Development of the Singular Proximal Form of the Non-Emphatic /min/ Form.

min + in (Construct Suffix) + une

↓

min in une

↓

mit in une (by denasalization)

↓

mitune (by syncope)

OR

min + iune (Augmented Singular Proximal General Demonstrative)

↓

mitiune (by denasalization)

↓

mitune (by syncope)

he development *miteune* to *mitune* can be explained by the fact that where a word-final /n/ is followed by a diphthong in which the first element is a non-syllabic glide high vowel, word-final /n/ is denasalized to /t/ but the non-syllabic glide vowel is deleted. This morphophonetic change is touched on in this study (see Section 9.6.).

Figure 4. Development of the Singular Distal Form of the Non-Emphatic /min/ Form.

in + in (Construct Suffix) + uno

↓

min in uno

↓

mit in uno (by denasalization)

↓

mituno (by syncope)

OR

min + iuno (Augmented Singular Distal General Demonstrative)

↓

mitiuno (by denasalization)

↓

mituno (by syncope)

The development *miteuno* to *mituno* can be explained by the fact that where a word-final /n/ is followed by a diphthong in which the first element is a non-syllabic glide high vowel, word-final /n/ is denasalized to /t/ but the non-syllabic glide vowel is deleted. This morphophonetic change is touched on in this study (see Section 9.6.).

Figure 5. Development of the Singular Medial Form of the Non-Emphatic /min/ Form.

min + in (Construct Suffix) + una

↓

min in una

↓

mit in una (by denasalization)

↓

mituna (by syncope)

↓

mita (by syncope)

OR

min + iuna (Presumed Augmented Singular Medial General Demonstrative)

↓
m*itiuna* (by denasalization)
↓
mituna (by syncope)
↓
mita (by syncope)

The development *miteuna* to *mituna* can be explained by the fact that where a word-final /n/ is followed by a diphthong in which the first element is a non-syllabic glide high vowel, word-final /n/ is denasalized to /t/ but the non-syllabic glide vowel is deleted. This morphophonetic change is touched on in this study (see Section 9.6.).

Once the /min-/ Forms of the General Demonstrative Set had been formed, at a later stage it was affected by denasalization of the initial /m/ explaining the doublet in the demonstrative regime of a /min/ singular non-emphatic set and a /bit/ singular non-emphatic set.

Table 6a. Nauruan General Demonstratives Set, Singular Forms, with the fused elements /mit/ and /bit/.

Proximity	Simple form of the Demonstrative, Singular (General Demonstrative Singular Set)	Augmented form of the General Demonstrative Singular Set	Simple Demonstrative fused with the element /min/ (Singular Non-Emphatic /min/ Set)	/bit/ Set	Meaning
Proximal	une	eune, iune	mitune	bitune	this (animate/inanimate) here
			Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form	
			(unattested)	tune	
Medial	(una – unattested, but presumed present in an earlier form of Nauruan) ia[1]	(euna, iuna – unattested, but presumed present in an earlier form of Nauruan)	mituna	(bituna - unattested)	that (animate/inanimate) there
			Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form	
			mita	bita	
Distal	uno	euno, iuno	mituno	bituno	that (animate/inanimate) yonder/over there
			Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form	
			(unattested)	tuno	

Note:

[1] There is internal evidence of an historical form *una

23. Observations on Animacy in Nauruan.

Some preliminary observations are in order with regard to animacy and how it is represented in the Nauruan domains.

Hodges in his study (Hodges 2020:264) assigns the Nauruan element /men/ to Proto-Micronesian *manu, 'living creature'.

Pohnpeian, Mokilese and Kiribati – all within the Micronesian Language Family - have a classifier *men* which is used to count animate beings (see Rehg 1981:130,131; Harrison 1976:87; Lee & Timee 2019:27).

This element is present in the Nauruan Demontrative and Numeral domain with two clear meanings. It is used both to indicate a general animate category as well as a gender-specific male category.

It is suggested in this study that at a certain stage of Nauruan, /men/ was re-lexicalized to mean specifically 'male'.

23.1. Animate Cardinal Numeral and Animate Demonstrative Sets.

In its earliest manifestation with the meaning of 'living creature, human', it appears in the Animate Cardinal Numeral Set which is used both for the enumerating of humans (regardless of gender) and other living creatures as well. In the human context, as with other areas of Nauruan grammar, unless otherwise specified or evident from context, the default is male.

The Animate Cardinal Numeral Set that is based on the Animacy Marker /men/ is restricted to the numerals 2 to 4.

Table 12. Animate Cardinal Numerals based on the Animacy Marker /men/.

Animate Cardinal Numerals based on /men/			
one (suppletive)	two	three	four
ion, aiquen/ aikwen[1]	arumen	aijimen/aiyimen	amen

Note:

[1] /aiquen/ is the numeral for 1, and is used is taken from the General Cardinal Numeral Set. Although /ion/ is used generally as the General Indefinite Determiner 'a, an', there is some indication that /ion/ has a further, more specific, function with the animacy domain, i.e.:

õ õijõñ ion mo oogoda ion Ps 75:7 he abases one (man) and exhalts another (man)
mi ion inimaget eñame ñabũna re edua linon Eze 9:2 and one (man) among the men clothed in linon
bwe ejeñ bet Rebekka eow itũrin ion, ñea etõñida ñea Isaak Ro 9:10 for Rebekah also was pregnant by one (man), our father Isaac
eñame ion uge bwe eimwi an õt imin memak: mi ion ñea ejûrûñ tõ õt imin ñan erigidan eat emwarere Ro 14:2 for one man says that it is right his eating all things: but (another) one who is weak just eats things that grow up from the ground
ion ũge bwõ õkaganado eket ibumin ea ibumin Ro 14:5 one (man) says that one day is more important than another (day
katon – one thing each, one person each

The composition of the numerals 2 to 4 is transparent:

NP (Numeral Prefix) + Numeral + Animacy Marker

i.e.

a + ru + men *> arumen*

a + iju + men *> aijimen*

a + a + men *> amen*

This same pattern is seen with a later development in Nauruan, the Animate Demonstrative Numeral Set, which again is used both for the enumerating of humans (regardless of gender) and other living creatures as well. In the human context, as with other areas of Nauruan grammar, unless otherwise specified or evident from context, the default is male.

Table 13. Animate Demonstrative Numeral Set based on the Animacy Marker /men/.

	Number			
Proximity	one (suppletive)[1]	two	three	four
Proximal	une	rumene	ijimene Syncopated Form imene	amene
Medial	ia	rumena	ijimena Syncopated Form imena	amena
Distal	uno	rumeno	ijimeno Syncopated Form imeno	ameno

Note:

[1] The demonstrative forms for 'this one (human) here, this one (living creature) here' etc is taken from the General Demonstrative Set.

Again, as with the Animate Cardinal Numeral Set, the composition of these forms is transparent:

Numeral + Animacy Marker + Spatial Suffix

i.e.

ru +	men +	ne	> rumene
iju +	men + ne		> ijimene
a +	men + ne		> amene

And so with the Medial and Distal forms.

At a later stage in Nauruan, there developed three prefixes, one that indicated emphasis /ña/ and two that indicated lack of emphasis /min/ and /mũ/. These spread from the General Demonstrative Set to the Animate Demonstrative Numeral Set.

Table 14. Full Set of Animate Demonstrative Numeral.

		Plain Form	Emphatic /ña/ Form (E)	Non-Emphatic /min/ Form (NEI)	Non-Emphatic /mü/ Form (NEII)
Two	Proximal	rumene	ngarumene ñarumene	minrumene minirumene	murumene mũrumene
	Medial	rumena	ngarumena ñarumena	minrumena minirumena	murumena mũrumena
	Distal	rumeno	ngarumeno ñarumeno	minrumeno minirumeno	murumeno mũrumeno
Three	Proximal	iyimene jimene imene	ngaiyimene ñaijimene	miniyimene minijimene	muiyimene mũijimene Syncopated form miyimene mijimena
	Medial	iyimena jimena imena	ngaiyimena ñaijimena	miniyimena minijimena	muiyimena mũijimena Syncopated form miyimena mijimena
	Distal	iyimeno jimeno imeno	ngaiyimeno ñaijimeno	miniyimeno minijimeno	muiyimeno mũijimeno Syncopated form miyimeno mijimeno
Four	Proximal	amene	ngamene ñamene	minamene	muamene mũamene
	Medial	amena	ngamena ñamena	minamena	muamena mũamena
	Distal	ameno	ngameno ñameno	minameno	muameno mũameno

24. Denasalization and the Gender-Specific Animate Numerals and Demonstratives.

At a later stage of Nauruan, a gender-specific set of Animate Numerals and Demonstratives arose, and in this secondary set, the now fossilized element /men/ was re-lexicalized to mean 'male', and with its re-lexicalized meaning appears in contemporary Nauruan as the element specifying maleness, and it is this later development that we see denasalization at work.

25. Denasalization and the Male Demonstrative Set (Singular).

This set arose after the Animacy Marker /men/ was re-lexicalized to denote 'male'.

Table 15. Male Demonstrative Set, Singular Forms.

Proximity	Simple form	Syncopated Form	English gloss
Proximal	ametune	amune	this male here
	Syncopated Form		
	amtune		
Medial	ametuna (unattested form)	ameta	that male there
		Syncopated Form	
		amea	
Distal	ametuno	amuno	that
	Syncopated Form		
	amtuno		

The composition of these forms is transparent:

Figure 6. Development of the Singular Proximal Male Demonstrative.

amen + in (Construct Suffix) + une
[Simple Form, Singular Proximal General Demonstrative]

↓

amet in une [by denasalization]

↓

ametune [by syncope]

↓

amune [by syncope]

OR

amen + iune [Augmented Singular Proximal General Demonstrative]

↓

ametiune [by denasalization]

↓

ametune [by syncope]

↓

amune [by syncope]

and so with the distal form.

The Medial Form,

Figure 7. Development of the Singular Medial Male Demonstrative.

amen + in (Construct Suffix) + una

↓

amen in una

↓

amet in una [by denasalization]

↓

ametuna [by syncope]

↓

ameta [by syncope]

↓

amea [by syncope]

OR

amen + iuna

↓

ametiuna [by denasalization]

↓

ametuna [by syncope]

↓

ameta [by syncope]

↓

amea [by syncope]

Examples:

419.
ita ngaga ameta mungana ukwan me inan uyuwong mungana wheat
only TEMP+MED male+MED NEII+MED.P fruit+3S.POS & UNR recognize NEII+MED.P wheat
me mungana deo wheat Matt 13:fnt10 1976
and NEII+MED.P only+NEG wheat
just then that man those fruit he will recognize the wheat and the not-wheat

The often used word /amen/ 'male for…', has been suggested as a syncopated form of /amea/ + /in/ Construct Particle (see SvN:25).

26. Denasalization and the Female Demonstrative Set (Singular).

It can be presumed that at time the Male Demonstrative was formulated, a complimentary female form was formulated.

The marker for 'female' is variously written with /ã-, e-/ or /ãi-, ei-/. This is explained by Nathan (1973.1:12) who shows that a non-syllabic vocalic glide can follow /e/, i.e. [ei̯] ; this would explain why there are two spellings for 'female' seen in the noun for 'woman', /ãn, en/, but which appears as /ãi-, ei-/ in the word /ãita/, amongst others.

Table 16. Female Demonstrative Set, Singular Forms.

Proximity	Simple form	Syncopated Form	English gloss
Proximal	ãitune eitune		this female, the female here
Medial	ãituna eituna	ãita eita	That female, the female there
Distal	ãituno eituno		that female yonder

The composition of these forms is transparent.

For the proximal form:

Figure 8. Development of the Singular Proximal Female Demonstrative.

ãn + in (Construct Suffix) + une

↓

ãit in une [by denasalization]

↓

ãitune [by syncope]

OR

ãn + iune

↓

ãit iune [by denasalization]

↓

ãitune [by syncope]

and so for the distal form.

For the medial form,

Figure 9. Development of the Singular Medial Female Demonstrative.

ãn + in (Construct Suffix) + una

↓

ãit in una [by denasalization]

↓

ãituna [by syncope]

↓

ãita [by syncope]

OR

ãn + iuna

↓

ãit iuna [by denasalization]

↓

ãituna [by syncope]

↓

ãita [by syncope]

Examples:

420.
Inimagem me ãitune Ge 3:15
between+2S.POs & female+PROX
between you and this woman

421.
edũ ãitune Ge 20:2
sibling+1S.POS female+PROX
this woman is my sister

422.
ijeget ãita ñea aiaen tekei ijoran Ca 6:10
who female+MED E+MED see+3S.POS.GER like LOC+morning
who is that woman whose appearance is like morning

423.
atin ian kor aua ia me timor ngait eita Matt 15:28 1976
from+3S.POS in+3S.POS INTENS hour MED & live child+3S.POS female+MED
from that very hour her daughter was healed

424.
eo mat eitune eoning bwe ita miyimiy Mark 5:39 1976
NEG die+PERF female+PROX AB+young for only sleep
this girl is not dead but only sleeps

425.
eitune eman agen Mark 12:43 1976
female+PROX 3S.DEP+die+PERF spouse+3S.POS
this woman her husband has died (i.e. this widow/she is a widow)

27. Denasalization and the fused form of the direct address (Vocative) demonstrative (singular).

Denasalization is also present with the female fused form of Direct Address (Vocative) Demonstrative (singular).

This is composed thus:

Existing Singular Proximal Female Demonstrative + 2nd Person Singular Indipendent Pronoun

i.e.:

ãitune + auwe

↓

ãitunuwe [by syncope]

Examples:

426.
ãitunuwe, wo nim eo ren wein me eogiden Judg 13:7
female+PROX+VOC 2S.DEP MOD NEG drink wine & AB+spirits
O woman! do not drink wine or spirits

427.
eitunuwe eoning in en, rida ko! Lu 8:54 1976
female+PROX+VOC AB+young CONS female rise COMM
girl! get up!

The female vocative demonstrative also occurs without fusing /auwe/, e.g.

428.
ätune auwe! NG38
female+PROX 2S.IND
hey, you! (female addressed)

28. Denasalization and the Male Demonstrative Numeral.

This set arose after the Animacy Marker /men/ was re-lexicalized to denote ‘male’.

The origin of these forms is by fusing the now re-lexicalized element /men/ to signify ‘male’ to the pre-existing fused simple forms of the Animate Demonstrative Numeral.

Table 17 . Male Demonstrative Numeral.

Number	Proximity	End Form	Syncopated Form
Two males	Proximal	amerumene	None
	Medial	amerumena	None
	Distal	amerumeno	None
Three males	Proximal	ameitijimene	ameitsimene ametimene
	Medial	ameitijimena	ameitsimena ametimena
	Distal	ameitijimeno	ameitsimeno ametimeno

Their composition is transparent:

amen + rumene > *amerumene*
[Nauruan regressive rhotic assimilation process]

and so with medial and distal forms

amen + ijimene

↓

ameitsijimene [Nauruan denasalization process]

and so with medial and distal forms.

A syncopated form of /ameitsijime/ exists:

ameitsijimene

↓

ameitsimene

and so with medial and distal forms.

Examples:

429.
abumin ango iruwin me Jesus emwin ametimena Petrus me Jacobus me
NP+CL5[11] six after+3S.POS & Jesus call male+three+ANIM+MED Peter & Jacob (James) &
Johannes Matt 17:1 1976
John

430.
iruwit edae eraquõ, õrren amea wõn temoniba ameitsimena itsiõ Matt 25:19
after+3S.POS AB+time 3S.DEP+long come+PERF male+MED RPOS+3S.POS lord male+three+ANIM+MED AB+servant
after a long time, the lord of those three servants then came

Kayser also gives a fused lone Male Demonstrative Numeral for ’30 males’(NG32):

Table 18 . Lone Male Demonstrative Numeral for 30.

		Simple	Emphatic	NEI	NEII
30 males	Proximal	ametimoeo̱e	ṅametimoeo̱e	minimetimoeo̱e	mụmetimoeo̱e
	Medial	ametimoeo̱a	ṅametimoeo̱a	minimetimoeo̱a	mụmetimoeo̱a
	Distal	ametimoeo̱o	ṅametimoeo̱o	minimetimoeo̱o	mụmetimoeo̱o

Why there should be this single distinct male demonstrative is a mystery. It seems to be based on the re-lexicalized /men/, ‘male’ and /iyumo/, ‘thirty’, Animate Cardinal Numeral, i.e. :

amen + iyumo > ametiyumo [in keeping with Nauruan denasalization process]

↓

ametimo [by syncope]

This fused form /men/ to indicate maleness and the use of the secondary set of spatial suffixes, *-o̱e*, *-o̱a*, *-o̱o* both indicate that it is a late fused form.

29. Denasalization and the Female Demonstrative Numeral.

The Female Demonstrative Numeral is likely to have arisen at the same time as the Male Demonstrative Numeral.

The marker for ‘female’ is variously written with /ã-, e-/ or /ãi-, ei-/. This is explained by Nathan (1973.1:12) who shows that a non-syllabic vocalic glide can follow /e/, i.e. [ei̯] ; this would explain why there are two spellings for ‘female’ seen in the noun for ‘woman’, /ãn, en/, but which appears as /ãi-, ei-/ in the word /ãita/, amongst others.

The Female Demonstrative Numeral is composed of fusing the marker for ‘female’ to the pre-existing fused simple forms of the animate demonstrative numeral, i.e. :

Table 19. Female Demonstrative Numeral.

Number	Proximity	End Form	Syncopated Form
Two females	Proximal	ãirumene eirumene	None
	Medial	ãirumena eirumena	None
	Distal	ãirumeno eirumeno	None
Three males	Proximal	ãitsijimene eitiyimene	ãitsimene eitimene
	Medial	ãitsijimena eitiyimena	ãitsimena eitimena
	Distal	ãitsijimeno eitiyimeno	ãitsimeno eitimeno

Their composition is transparent:

ãn + rumene

↓

ãirumene [Nauruan regressive rhotic assimilation process]

and so with medial and distal forms

ãn + ijimene

↓

ãitijimene [by denasalization]

↓

ãitsimene [by syncope]

and so with medial and distal forms.

Examples:

431.
re etsio a ãitsimena Job 1:4
3P.DEP call for female+three+ANIM+MED
they invited their three sisters

432.
eitimena ro ogiten edegeri Mark 15:41
female+three+ANIM+MED 3P.DEP COMPL follow
those three women had followed him

Kayser also gives a fused form for 30 females, or an unspecified number of females (NG32):

Table 20. Lone Female Demonstrative Numeral for 30.

		Simple	Emphatic	NEI	NEII
30 males	Proximal	ätijumoeo̱e	ˈn̓ätijumoeo̱e	minätijumoeo̱e	mụ̓ätijumoeo̱e
	Medial	ätijumoeo̱a	n̓ätijumoeo̱a	minätijumoeo̱a	mụ̓ätijumoeo̱a
	Distal	ätijumoeo̱o	n̓ätijumoeo̱o	minätijumoeo̱o	mụ̓ätijumoeo̱o

This is a mysterious doublet with the lone male demonstrative for 30 males. (Section 23.) This female form has the same origin as the male form but unlike the male form it has not undergone syncopation. It is based on /ãn, en/, 'female' and /iyumo/, 'thirty', Animate Cardinal Numeral, i.e.:

än + ijumo > etijumo [in keeping with Nauruan denasalization process]

This fused form uses the secondary set of spatial suffixes, *-o̱e, -o̱a, -o̱o* which indicates it is a later fused form.

30. Denasalization and the /aben/ Demonstrative Numeral.

There is a very small set of mixed gender demonstrative numerals based on the pre-existing fused simple forms of the animate demonstrative numeral by the addition of a prefix ‘aben’ . The origin of this prefix in not know.

Its formation is:

aben + rumene

↓

aberumene [Nauruan regressive rhotic assimilation process]

and so with medial and distal forms.

aben + ijimene

↓

abetijimene [by denasalization]

↓

abetimene [by syncope]

and so with the medial and distal forms

Kayser (NG31) gives the following gloss for these forms:

‘aberumene’ (male & female) these two here

‘abetimene’ (male & female) these three here

Its unclear how this demonstrative functioned as I have only found two occasions in the published materials, and both seem to apply to males (with no females included). So I take Kayser's gloss '(male & female)' to mean this set can be used for either males or females, or mixed gender groups.

31. Denasalization and the /angame/ Demonstrative.

'angame' is the word for "person, man". This element is fused with the Augmented Simple Singular forms of the General Demonstrative.

Table 21. /angame/ Demonstrative (Secondary Singular Male Demonstrative).

Proximity ↓	Fused form	Syncopated Form
Proximal	aṅametune	Unattested
Medial	aṅametuna	aṅameta
Distal	aṅametuno	Unattested

The composition is transparent.

The proximal form:

angame + in (Construct Suffix) + iune

↓

angame in iune

↓

angame it une [by denasalization]

↓

angametune [by syncope]

and so for the distal form.

For the medial form,

angame + in (Construct Suffix) + iuna

↓

angame in iuna

↓

angame it iuna [by denasalization]

↓

angametuna [by syncope]

↓

angameta (by syncope)

The only written example of this demonstrative located is as follows:

433.
o gaida ṅameta Akǫrǫ bu'e num oụdoụdo medenan ṅaimar
3S.DEP come.up *angame*+MED Akoro for+3S.DEP MOD ask+RED way+CONS child+1D.EXC.POSS
inna aoh! NG220
there oh
that Akoro has come up in order to enquire the way of our child there, oh!

The actual paraphrase given by Kayser to the above sentence is "now the stupid Akoro had to come to this very spot to inquire how our child was doing!", which might indicate that the *angame* Demonstrative had a pejorative connotation.

32. Denasalization and the Classificatory Cardinal Numeral.

Evidence of Denasalization is also present in the Classificatory Cardinal Numeral.

The numerals above 4 are formed thus:

Classificatory Numeral Particle + Numeral

The Classificatory Numeral Particle is regularly formed:

a- (Numeral Prefix) + Classifier + in (Construct Particle)

Examples:

classificatory numeral particle of classifier CL30 /*ra/* denoting objects presenting a flat surface

a-ra-n

classificatory numeral particle of classifier CL21, *mae*, denoting objects presenting a long, rigid aspect

a-mae-n

When the Classificatory Numeral Particle is followed by a numeral with an initial high vowel, denasalization has taken place.

Examples using the classificatory cardinal numeral for Classifier 30[3] /ra/, objects presenting a flat surface:

Table 22 . Indicative Table: Formation of Classificatory Cardinal Numeral using Classifier 30[3] /ra/ that have undergone denasalization.

Numeral	Classificatory Numeral Particle	Numeral Root		Syncopated Form
5	aran	ijimo	aratijimo	Not Present
30	aran	ijumo[1]	aratijumo	aratimo
50	aran	ijima[2]	aratijima	aratima
100	aran	ibu	aratubu[4]	Not Present
300	aran	ijubu	aratijibu	Not Present
500	aran	ijimowar[3]	aratijimowar	aratimowar

Notes:

[1]. /ma/ is the suffix for 'tens'; the form /mo/ is due to progressive assimilation

[2]. The form for '50' appears to have undergone syncope, i.e.:

ijimo ma > ijimoma > ijima, '50'

[3]. The combination –uer in Kayser's Nauru Grammar is here understood to represent /-u̯er/ (u̯ being a non-syllabic glide-vowel). It is written /-war/ in the 1918 Bible and /-wer/ in the 1976 New Testament.

[4]. /aratubu/ due to regressive assimilation.

As all of the classificatory numeral particles have word-final /n/, all classificatory numerals follow the same denasalization process with the same numerals as exemplified in Table XX.

Other forms seem to follow the same history but are in fact due to the Nauruan phonological process of dental stop regressive assimilation. i.e.

Numeral	Classificatory Numeral Particle	Numeral Root	End Form
10	aran	ta	arata
90	aran	duma	araduma

33. Denasalization and the Classificatory Demonstrative Numeral Sets.

The Classificatory Demonstrative Numeral Sets combine four morphemic elements:

Emphatic or Non-Empatic status
Classificatory grouping
Numeral
Spatial Proximity

The low numerals 1 to 4 do not present cases of denasalization.

The numerals above 4 present cases of denasalization, with the numerals 5, 30, 50, 100, 300 and 500 triggering denasalization, as all have a word-initial high vowel.

Using the Classifier for 'objects presenting a flat surface' /ra/ (Classifier 30[3]) the following examples are indicative of denasalization with the above numbers throught the Classificatory Demontrative Numeral Sets. Their construction follows a regular pattern:

Classifier + /in/ Construct Suffix + Numeral + Spatial Suffix

Table 23: Classificatory Demonstrative Numerals exhibiting Denasalization using Classifier 30[3] /ra/.

Numeral	Classifier + /in/	Numeral Root		Syncopated Form	Spatial Suffix[5] Proximal Medial Distal
5	ran	ijimo	ratijimo	Not Present	-o̱e/-o̱a/-o̱o
30	ran	ijumo[1]	ratijumo	ratimo -e[6]	-o̱e/-o̱a/-o̱o
50	ran	ijima[2]	ratijima	ratima -e[6]	-o̱e/-o̱a/-o̱o
100	ran	ibu	ratibu -i[6]	Not Present	-u̱e/-u̱a /-u̱o
300	ran	ijubu	ratijibu[4] -i[6]	Not Present	-u̱e/-u̱a /-u̱o
500	ran	ijimower[3]	ratijimower	ratimower	-o̱e/-o̱a/-o̱o

Notes:

[1]. /ma/ is the suffix for 'tens'; the form /mo/ is due to progressive assimilation

[2]. The form for '50' appears to have undergone syncope, i.e.:

ijimo ma > ijimoma > ijima, '50'

[3]. The combination –uer in Kayser's Nauru Grammar is here understood to represent /-u̱er/ (u̱ being a non-syllabic glide-vowel). It is written /-war/ in the 1918 Bible and /-wer/ in the 1976 New Testament.

[4]. /ratijibu/ due to progressive assimilation.

[5]. There are two series of the spatial suffixes:

Series I: *-ne/ -na/ -no*

Series II: *-oe/ -oa/ -oo* also spelt , -o̱e, -o̱a, -o̱o; -u̱e/-u̱a /-u̱o (following /i/)

Series I is the 'normal' set, being associated with general demonstratives and locational adverbs.

Series II has a very limited usage, being found in the demonstratives incorporating the numeral system, along with the demonstratives incorporating both the numeral system and the classifier system pointing to a late development in Nauruan. This Series II is frequently represented in the orphographies as -we/ -wa/ -wo.

6. The higher numbers in this have a function vowel attached to them /-e-/, or /-i-/ following /u/.

All of this information has been adapted from Kayser's "Nauru Grammar".

At a later stage in Nauruan, there developed three prefixes, one that indicated emphasis /ña/ and two that inidicated lack of emphasis /min/ and /mũ/. These spread from the general demonstrative set to the Animate Demonstrative Numeral set. So the above forms for the simple demonstrative numeral for /ra/ can also present prefixed forms. Their construction follows a regular pattern:

(+/- Demonstrative Prefix) + Classifier + /in/ Construct Suffix + Numeral + Spatial Suffix

Example: ṅa- ratimo -e -o̱e/-o̱a/-o̱o etc. 'these thirty objects presenting a flat surface etc.'

34. Denasalization and the Distributive Numeral Set.

Nauruan also developed a distributive form of the numeral, meaning “effect the distribution of X number each”. As with other Oceanic languages, usage was made of the Causative Prefix /ka/.

Denasalization is evident in the formation of the distributive numeral.

The General Distributive Numeral sets the stage.

A few remarks need to be made as an introduction.

In this consideration of the distributive numerals, extensive use has been made of the forms given by Kayser in his “Nauru Grammar” (pages 78 – 162) as the written sources have few examples. For ease of reference, the forms (simple and reduplicated) given by Kayser have been re-analyzed and each variant has been given a form number.

Table 24 . Forms of Causative Prefix used in Distributive Numerals (after Kayser) .

Form 1 (Base form)	Form 2 (Reduplicated Form of the base form)	Form 3 (Triplication of the base form)	Form 4 (Partially Labialized Form)	Form 5 (Reduplicated partially labialized form)	Form 6 (Triplicated partially labialized form)	Form 7 (Fully Labialized Form)	Form 8 (Reduplicated fully labialized form)	Form 9 (Triplicated fully labialized form)
ka- with variant kat-	kaka- with variants katakat- and karakar-	katakatakat- and karakarakar-	qua- with variant qui-	quaqua- with variants quataquat- quataqua- quawa- quitaquit- quinuquin-	quaquaquat- with variants quataquataquat- quaraquaraquar-	wa- with variant wat-	watawat- with variant watagu-	watawatawat- with variant watawataqu-

No explanation is presented here as to why /ka/ underwent partial labialization to /qua/ and full labialization to /wa/, nor for the variants in /qui/ , other than the fact that there is internal evidence from Nauruan that the labialization of /kw/ to /w/ was a sound law still undergoing effect in some words at the time of European contact, and that the Causative Prefix /ka/ had variants in /ki/ in non-numeric, non-demonstrative domains which may have produced the partially labialized variants in /qui/.

=

Table 25. General Distributive Numeral Set (and forms used for animate subjects where these were recorded).

Numeral	Form 1	Form 2	Forms 4	Form 5	Forms 7	Form 8
1	katon gaton	katakaton	quaton	quataquaton	waton	watawaton
2	karo	karokaro karakaro	quaro	quaroquaro		
3	katiju	katakatiju	quatiju	quataquatiju	watiju	watawatiju
4	kataeoq	katakataeoq	quataeoq	quataquataeoq quaquaeoq	wataeoq	watawataeoq
5	katimo1918 katijimo	katakatijimo katakatimo 1918	quatijimo quatimo	quataquatimo quataquatijimo	watijimo watimo	watawatijimo watawatimo
6			quaño 1918 quaṅo	quaquaṅo		
7			quaeiu quaeu	quaquaeu quaquaeiu		
8			quaoju 1918 quauju	quaquauju quaquaoiju		
9			quado	quaquado quadoquado		
10			quita	quitaquita quituquita 1918		
10 Animate	kata	katakata	quata	quataquata	wata	watawata
20			quinarama quurarama	quinuquinarama quuruquurarama		
20 Animate	karuma	karakaruma	quaruma	quaraquaruma		
30			quanimo	quaquanimo quanaquanimo		
30 Animate	katijumo katiyumo	katakatijumo katakatiyumo katakatimo 1918	quatijumo kwatimo 1976	quaquatijumo quataquatijumo	watijumo	watawatijumo
40			quama quamma	quaquama quaquamma		
50	katima	katakatijima katakatima gadagatima 1976	quatima	quataquatijima quataquatima	watima	watawatijima watawatima
60			quaṅoma quañama 1918 kwangoma 1976	quaquaṅoma		
70			quaemo	quaquaemo		
80			quaujumo quaojomo	quaquaujumo quaquaojomo		
90			quaduma	quadaquaduma		
100	katebu katubu 1918 gatubu 1976	katakatebu katakatubu 1918	quatebu	quataquatebu	watebu	watawatebu
200	karobu	karakarobu	quarobu	quaraquarobu		
300	katijubu	katakatijubu	quatijubu	quataquatijubu	watijubu	watawatijubu
400	katabu	katakatabu katakatubu 1918	quatabu	quataquatabu	watabu	watawatabu
500	katimouer	katakatimouer katakatijimowar	quatijimouer quatimouer	quataquatijimouer quataquatimouer	watijimouer	watawatijimouer watawatimouer
600			quaṅouer quaṅowar	quaquaṅouer		
700			quaeuer quaeiuwar	quaquaeuer quaquaeiuwar		
800			quaujuer quaojuwar	quaquaujuer quaquaojuwar		
900			quadauer quadawar	quadaquadauer		
1,000			quaraṅa	quaquaearaṅan		
2,000	karo earaṅan	karokaro earaṅan	quaro earaṅan	quaroquaro earaṅan		
1000,000			quaraṅa earaṅan	quaquaearaṅan earaṅan		

Note:
Forms 3, 6, and 9 of the Causative Prefix (see Table 24) are missing from this series; missing entries indicate no recorded forms collected by Kayser.

From this table of the General Distributive Numeral Set it is apparent that there are in fact two prefixes utilized, /ka/ and /kat/.

Why the variant form /kat/ ?

In this study it is suggested that the /kat/ forms evolved by combining the prefix /ka/ either with the Construct Suffix /in/, or with an epenthetic /n/, triggering denasalization to form the variant /kat/, and /kat/ then spread to other numerals by analogy.

The forms for 2, 10, 20 and 200 represents the original pattern:

/ka/ Causative Prefix		*+ Numeral*		
ka	*+*	*aro*	*>*	*karo*
ka	*+*	*ata*	*>*	*kata*[1]
ka	*+*	*aruma*	*>*	*karuma*[2]
ka	*+*	*arobu*	*>*	*karobu*

Note:

[1]. */kata/ is now only used with animate subjects; inanimate subject have the derived form /quita/*

kata > kita > quita

[2]. */karuma/ is now only used with animate subjects, inanimate subject have the derived form /quinarama/*

an + aruma > anaruma > anarama

> ka+ anarama > kanarama > kinarama > quinarama

This original pattern also appears to be in evidence with other numerals.

It is seen with the numeral 4, although in a derived form (Form 5):

ka + aeoq > quaeoq > quaquaeoq

The original pattern is also in evidence with other numerals, albeit in derived forms (Form 4):

quaṅo	*< ka + aṅo 6*
quaeiu	*< ka + aeiu 7*
quaoju	*< ka + aoju 8*
quado	*< ka + ado 9*
quaruma	*< ka + aruma 20*
quanimo	*< ka + animo [1] 30*
quama	*< ka + ama 40*
quaṅoma, quañama	*< ka + aṅoma 60*
quaemo	*< ka + aemo 70*
quaojomo	*< ka + aojomo 80*
quaduma	*< ka + aduma 90*
quarobu	*< ka + arobu 200*
quaṅouer	*< ka +aṅouer 600*

Note:

[1]. /quanimo/ is only used with inanimate subjects; animate subjects have the original form /ka + atijumo 30/

/quanimo/ is a derived from /ka + animo/; animo is itself a derived form from /atijumo/

aijumo > an + aijumo

> anaijumo > anaijimo > animo

> ka + animo > kanimo > quanimo

For the numeral 1, the General Cardinal Numeral /aiquen/ does not feature.

Rather, the particle /ion/ does.

/ion/ is now used as the General Indefinite Determiner ‘a, an’ . However, there are indications that it has or had a more extensive use as a numeral.

Examples:

434.
ion NG171 one round object

435.
eñame iot atsin eat arõeni memak in katakaton Nu 1:4
AB+person INDF from+CONS on+CONS AB+tribe all CONS CAUS+INDF+RED
one man from all the tribes, one each

436.
õ õijõñ ion mo oogoda ion Ps 75:7
3S.DEP FAC+below INDF & 3S.DEP+FAC+high INDF
he abases one (man) and exhalts another (man)

437.
mi ion inimaget eñame ñabũna re edua linon Eze 9:2
& INDF among+CONS AB+person E+ANIM.P+MED 3P.DEP clothe linen
and one (man) among the men clothed in linon

438.
bwe ejeñ bet Rebekka eow itũrin ion, ñea etõñida ñea Isaak Ro 9:10
for 3S.DEP+pregnant also Rebekah DIR by+CONS INDF E+MED father+1P.INC.POS E+MED Isaac
for Rebekah also was pregnant by one (man), our father Isaac

439.
eñame ion uge bwe eimwi an õt imin memak: mi ion ñea ejũrũñ tõ õt
AB+person INDF say for right GPOS+3S.POS eat AB+thing all & INDF E+MED 3S.DEP+weak only eat
imin ñan erigidan eat emwarere Ro 14:2
AB+thing E+MED.P+ 3S.DEP+grow.up+DIR8 on+CONS AB+dust
for one man says that it is right his eating all things: but (another) one who is weak just eats things that grow up from the ground

440.
ion ũge bwō õkaganado eket ibumin ea[32c] ibumin Ro 14:5
INDF say for 3S.DEP+important INDF+CL20[21] INDF+CL5[11] than INDF+CL5[11]
one (man) says that one day is more important than a(nother) day

If we assume that the Nauruan language dispreferred the combination /ka/ + /ion/, or /ka/ followed by a high vowel, and either joined them using the Construct Particle /in/ or by using an epenthetic /n/, the result of denasalization is:

ka + n + ion > katon

as is the case (see Section 10) with

ãn + ion > ãt on

imin + ion > imiton

ñain + ion > ñait on

Note:

katon + -eiy = make a single round object (NG173)

This same patters applies to the other numerals with a high vowel:

ka + n + iju '3' > katiju

ka + n + ijimo '5' > katijimo

ka + n + ijumo '30' > katijumo

ka + n + ijima '50' > katijima > katima

ka + n + ebu,ibu '100' > katubu

ka + n + ijubu '300' > katijubu

ka + n + ijimouer '500' > katijimouer

The initial prefix /kat-/ then spread by analogy to other parts of the Distributive Numeral, i.e.

kat + aeoq '4' > kataeoq

kat + abu '400' > katabu

35. Denasalization and the Animate Distributive Numeral Set.

At a later stage when the animate cardinal numeral developed (see 23.1.), a distributive form arose, which again is used both for the enumerating of humans (regardless of gender) and other living creatures as well. In the human context, as with other areas of Nauruan grammar, unless otherwise specified or evident from context, the default is male.

The /kat/ forms were carried across by analogy as can be seen with:

kat	*+*	*on*	*'1 persons'*	*>*	*katon*
kat	*+*	*ijimen*	*'3 persons'*	*>*	*katijimen*
kat	*+*	*amen*	*'four persons'*	*>*	*katamen*

Table 26. Animate Distributive Numeral Set.

Numeral	Form 1	Form 2	Forms 4	Form 5	Forms 7	Form 8
1	katon gaton	katakaton	quaton	quataquaton	waton	watawaton
2	karumen	karakarumen	quarumen quaramen	quaquarumen quaraquarumen		
3	katijimen	katakatijumen	quatijimen	quaquatijumen quataquatijumen	watijimen	watawatijumen
4	katamen	katakatamen	quatamen	quataquatamen	watamen	watawatamen

36. Denasalization and the Classificatory Distributive Numeral Sets.

At a later stage of Nauruan, the Distributive Numeral regime expanded into the Classificatory system to form the Classificatory Distributive Numeral Sets, and the now-fossilized prefix /kat/ is used due to analogy to form the Distributive Numerals 1 and 4.

Form for 1:

kat- + linking vowel + classifier

Form for 3:

katij- + linking vowel + classifier

Form for 4:

kat- + linking vowel + classifier

Table 27. Indicative Table: Classificatory Distributive Numeral using Classifier 30[3] /ra/.

Form	Numeral			
	1	2	3	4
1	katara	karura	katijira	katara
2	katakatara	karakarura	katakatijira	katakatara
3				
4	quatara	quarura	quatijira	quara
5	quaquatara quataquatara	quaquarura quaraquarura	quaquatijira quataquatijira	quaquara quataquara
6	quataquataquatara	quaraquaraquarura	quataquataquatijira	quataquataquara
7	watara		watijira	
8	watawatara		watawatijira	wataquar
9	watawatawatara		watawatawatijira	watawataquara

Note:

Empty boxes indicate no recorded examples.

NOTES:

1. Nauru Congregational Church 1887 – 1987, p 12

2.
(1) Pacific Islands Monthly, Vol. 11, No. 4, p 21;
(2) Karl H.M. Rensch. 1993. 'Father Alois Kayser and the Recent History of the Nauruan language', in Nauru Grammar by Alois Kayser MSC, edited by Karl H.M. Rensch (p I – XIII). Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, ACT, Australia.

3.
(1) Chiefs of Baitsi, Papers of Camilla Wedgwood, National Library of Australia;
(2) Nauru Detudamo 17.II.35, p 10. Papers of Camilla Wedgwood, National Library of Australia.

4.
'Micronesian' in this paper is used to describe the group of languages sharing the same common ancestor language that developed from the earlier ancestor language referred to as 'Proto-Oceanic' – itself a descendent of the original ancestor language referred to as 'Proto-Austronesian'.

The major member languages of the Micronesian group of languages are (alphabetically): Carolinian, Chuukese-Mortlockese, Kiribati, Kosraean, Marshallese, Mwokilese, Nauruan, Pingelapese, Pohnpeian, Puluwatese, Satawalese, Sonsorolese, Ulithian, and Woleaian.

Micronesian, used as a cultural/geographic area, includes (in addition to the above):

(a) the people of Belau, and the Chamorro people of Guam and the Mariana Islands (the languages of these two peoples are more closely related to the languages of the Philippines, and these two peoples appear to have been in-situ far longer than any of the other groups);

(b) the people of Yap (who predated the arrival of the peoples now speaking the Micronesian group of languages, but whose language descended from Proto-Oceanic);

(c) the people of the atolls of Kapingamarangi and Nukuoro, who are members of the Polynesian group of languages (also descended from Proto-Oceanic), who are more recent neighbours.

5.
See Jackson, Frederick H. 1986. 'On determining the external relationships of the Micronesian languages'. Geraghty, P., Carrington, L. and Wurm, S.A. editors. FOCAL II: Papers from the Fourth International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics. Pacific Linguistics Series C – No.94.The Australian National University.

6.
Another contributory factor to the change in Nauruan culture and language stability must be attributed to the cruelty perpetrated against the Nauruan people by the Imperial Japanese Forces during the 2nd World War.

At the outbreak of the war in 1940 the Nauruan people numbered 1800 (Report to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of Nauru during the year 1940, page 25). Following the invasion and occupation of Nauru by the Imperial Japanese Forces on 26th August 1942, a horrendous situation befell the Nauruans. Mistreatment and food shortages were daily sufferings until liberation by the Australian armed forces on 13th September 1945 (Tanaka 2010). This was compounded by the forced removal of 1200 Nauruans to the Chuuk archipelago in 1943 where mistreatment and starvation resulted in a 38% fatality rate.

The gatekeepers of Nauruan custom were decimated: the 1933 Census enumerated 65 Nauruans aged 60 years and above (4 % of the population of 1540). By 1948, out of 1448 Nauruans only 15 Nauruans (1%) were aged 60 years and above (Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics Bulletin No.7, 1934; Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations 1949).

7. Nauruan Personal Pronouns.

Dependent forms are attached to verbs or pre-verbal particles to indicate the actor of the verb phrase.

Independent and Emphatic pronouns are used for emphasis and contrast, and there is a certain overlap with the two forms.

The Independent 3rd Person non-singular forms are used both for actor and Objective (direct and indirect) positions.

The other Objective forms are used for direct and indirect object.

The indirect objective form, 1st person singular, is irregular – '*me*' .

Table 28. Nauruan Personal Pronouns.

Number	Person	Function				
		Dependent	Independent	Emphatic	Objective (suffix)	Possessive (suffix)
Singular	1st	a	añaanga	nañananga	õ/eõo	-ũ -u-õ -o
	2nd	wo	auweawe	ñauwengawe	wuw	m
	3rd	e, oã	eieiy	ñeingeiy	-	n
Dual	1st inclusive	ar [ær]	adarattar	ñadarngattar	gadarkattar	dartar
	1st exclusive	mar	amaramar	ñamarngamar	gamarkamar	mar
	2nd	amwarmwar	amũrõramuror	ñamũrõrngamuror	gamũrõrkamuror	mũrõrmuror
	3rd	ar, or [ʌr]	ũrõruror	ñũrõrnguror	ũrõruror	rõrror
Trial	1st inclusive	eij eiy	adeiatteiy	ñadeingatteiy	gadeikatteiy	deiteiy
	1st exclusie	meimeiy	ameiameiy	ñameingameiy	gameikameiy	meimeiy
	2nd	amweimweiy	amieiamieiy	ñamieingamieiy	gamieikamieiy	miemieiy
	3rd	areiareiy	ũreiureiy	ñũreingureiy	ũreiureiy	reireiy
Plural	1st inclusive	añang	adaatta	ñadangatta	gadakatta	data
	1st exclusive	amama	ama	ñamangama	gamakama	ma
	2nd	amwamwa	amiãamie	ñamiãngamie	gamiãkamie	miãmie
	3rd	re ro	ũraura	ñũrangura	ũraura	ra

In the 1918 Bible both the 1st Person Dual Inclusive Dependent Pronoun and the 3rd Person Dual Dependent Pronoun are spelt '*ar*', but there is a difference in vowel quality, i.e:

1st Person Dual Inclusive Dependent Pronoun - *ar* [ær]

3rd Person Dual Dependent Pronoun - *ar* [ʌr]

In keeping with a general Nauruan rule, unless otherwise indicated by context or qualifying words, 3rd person reference is by default male.

8. /bũriõ-/ ‘intestines, innards; heart, spirit; will’, is an inalienable noun and so requires the possessive suffixes

i.e. bũriõ bũriõũm bũriõũn etc

9. Inalienable Possession.

Nauruan, like other Oceanic languages, makes a distinction between the close nature, or otherwise, of objects and concepts to humans.

In Nauruan, objects which are considered as an integral part of human existence and cannot be separated from the person fall into the inalienable category. i.e.

kinship terms
body parts
body substances
a person’s spirit, name, and shadow
particular cultural objects
objects brought into an intimate personal bond

Other nouns are viewed as less bound to humans, the relationship being termed alienable.

This dualily (inalienable/alienable) is manifested in possessive constructions :

a. Inalienable: nouns are marked with a direct possession construction with suffixes specifying the possessor being attached to the inalienable noun.

b. Alienable: nouns are marked with an indirect possession construction that requires a possessive classifier - with the appropriate possessive suffix - that precedes the alienable noun (see Notes 22 and).

Table 29. Inalienable Possessive Suffixes.

Person	1st	1st inclusive	1st Exclusive	2nd	3rd
Singular	-õ/-o [-ʌ] -ũ/-u [-ɨ]			-m [mˠ]	-n
Dual		-dar/-tar [-tær]	-mar [-mːʲær]	- mũrõr/-muror [mˠɨrʌr]	-ũrõr/-uror [-rʌr]
Trial		-dei/-teiy/-teij [-tej,-teʝ]	-mei /-meiy/-meij [-mːʲej, -mːʲeʝ]	-miei /-mieiy/mieij [mʲej/mʲeʝ]	-rei /-reiy/-reij [ɾrej,reʝ]
Plural		-da/-ta [-tæ]	-ma [-mːʲæ]	-mie/-miã [mʲie]	-ra [-ræ]

Notes:

Phoneticizations from Hughes (2020) and Nathan (1973.1

Kayser in his "Nauru Grammar" analyzed Nauruan inalienable nouns into ten 'classes' according to the vocalic property accompanying the possessive suffixes with each 'class'.

30. Table of ten 'classes' of Inalienable Nouns (Adapted from Kayser NG22,23)

Number	Person	I tṏṅ- etong- father	II r- spine	III ṅai- ngai- son/daugh.	IV in- mother	V ag- spouse	VI be- hand	VII nan- foot	VIII medena way	IX eo tongue	X dudu wash water
Singular	1st	etongụ etõñũ	ṛụ rũ	ngaiụ ñaiũ	inö inõ	agö agõ	beö beõ	nanö nanõ	medena	eo	dudueö dudueõ
	2nd	tṏṅụm etõñũm	ṛim	ṅaim ñaim	inöm inõm	agöm agõm	bem	nanam	medenam	eom	dudum
	3rd	tṏṅgin etõñin	ṛin	ṅain ñain	inen	agen	ben	nanan	medenan	eon	dudun
Dual	1st Incl	tṏṅitar etõñidar	ṛitar ridar	ṅaitar ñaidar	inetar inedar	agetar agedar	betar bedar	nanatar nanadar	medenatar medenadar	eotar eodar	dudutar dududar
	1st Excl	tṏṅimar etõñimar	ṛimar	ngaimar ñaimar	inemar	agemar	bemar	nanamar	medenamar	eomar	dudumar
	2nd	tṏṅimụrör etõñũmũrõr	ṛimụrör rimũrõr	ṅaimụroõr ñaimũrõr	inõmụrör inõmũrõr	agemụrör agemũrõr	bemụrör bemũrõr	nanamụrör nanamũrõr	medenamụrör medenamũrõr	eomụrör eomũrõr	dudumụrör dudumũrõr
	3rd	tṏṅirör etõñũrõr	ṛụrör rũrõr	ṅaiụrör ñaiũrõr	inörör inõrõr	agörör agõrõr	börör bõrõr	nanörör nanõrõr	medenarör medenarõr	eorör eorõr	dudurör dudurõr
Trial	1st Incl	tṏṅiteij etõñidei	ṛiteij ridei	ṅaiteij ñaidei	ineteij inedei	ageteij agedei	beteij bedei	nanateij nanadei	medenateij medenadei	eoteij eodei	duduteij dududei
	1st Excl	tṏṅimeij etõñimei	ṛimeij rimei	ṅaimeij ñaimei	inemeij inemei	agemeij agemei	bemeij bemei	nanameij nanamei	medenameij medenamei	eomeij eomei	dudumeij dudumei
	2nd	tṏṅụmieij etõñũmiei	ṛụmieij rũmiei	ṅaimieij ñaimiei	inõmieij inõmiei	agemieij agemiei	bemieij bemiei	nanamieij nanamieiy	medenamieij medenamiei	omieiy eomieij	dudumieij dudumiei
	3rd	tṏṅụreij etõñũrei	ṛureij rũrei	ṅaiụreij ñaiũrei	inöreij inõrei	agöreij agõrei	boreij bõrei	nanoreij nanõrei	medenareij medenarei	eoreij eorei	dudureij dudurei
Plural	1st Incl	tṏṅida etõñida	ṛita rida	ṅaita ñaida	ineta ineda	ageta ageda	beta beda	nanata nanada	medenata medenada	eota eoda	duduta dududa
	1st Excl	tṏṅima etõñima	ṛima	ṅaima ñaima	inema	agema	bema	nanama	medenama medenama	eoma	duduma
	2nd	tṏṅụmie etõñũmiã	ṛimie rimiã	ṅaimie ñaimiã	inõmie inõmiã	agemie agemiã	bemie bemiã	nanamie nanamiã	medenamie medenamiã	eomie eomiã	dudumie dudumiã
	3rd	tṏṅụra etõñũra	ṛụra rũra	ṅaiụra ñaiũra	inöra inõra	agöra agõra	böra bõra	nanöra nanõra	medenara	eora	dudura

Kayser also gives the following rules for predicting the vowel associated with the possessive suffixes (NG25):

1. vowel of 1st Person Singular mirrored in 3rd Person Dual, Trial, and Plural
2. vowel of 2nd Person Singular mirrored in 2nd Person Dual, Trial, and Plural
3. vowel of 3rd Person Singular mirrored in 1st Person Inclusive and Exclusive Dual, Trial, and Plural

Kayser also presents a table setting out the vocalic outcomes of the ten 'classes':

31. Synopsis of vocalic outcomes associated with Kayser's ten 'Classes' (Adapted from Kayser NG24)

Number	Person	I töṅ etõñ	II r	III ṅai ñai	IV in	V ag	VI be	VII nan	VIII medena	IX eo	X dudu	Ending
Singular	1st 2nd 3rd	ụ/ũ ụ/ũ i	ụ/ũ i i	ụ/ũ - -	ö/õ ö/õ e	ö/õ ä ä	ö/õ - -	ö/õ a a	- - -	- - -	eö/eõ - -	 m n
Dual	1st 2nd 3rd	i ụ/ũ ụ/ũ	i i ụ/ũ	- - ụ/ũ	e ö ö	ä ä ö	- - ö	a a ö	- - -	- - -	- - -	tar/mar mụ̣rör rör
Trial	1st 2nd 3rd	i ụ ụ	i i ụ	- - ụ	e ö ö	ä ä ö	- - ö	a a ö	- - -	- - -	- - -	teij/meij mieij reij
Plural	1st 2nd 3rd	i ụ ụ	i i ụ	- - ụ	e ö ö	ä ä ö	- - ö	a a ö	- - -	- - -	- - -	ta/ma mie ra

10. Use of the conjunction */bwe/*.

/bwe/ has a wide range of meanings according to context.

1. to join a subordinate clause to a main clause, 'because, for the reason that, for'.
   It can also appear with the form */bwina/ [bwe + ina > bwina]*.
2. With reported speech and after mental verbs.
3. In contrasive clauses: but
4. 'so that, in order to, "to" infinitive clauses'.
5. Used in clauses of enumeration
6. 'bwi ita, bwe ita', 'just, except, save', as a conjunction used before a statement that forms an exception to one just made.
7. 'bwe dõgin, bwe dogin, dõgin bwe, dogin bwe', purpose or a reason for something: on account of, because of, for.
8. 'bwe añõg, bwe angog-', about X Person or Thing.
9. 'eaden bwe', until.

11. /dõg/

/dõg/ as an indipendent noun carries the meaning of ‘cause, occasion, reason’ and is an inalienable noun and so requires the possessive suffixes

i.e. dõgũ, dõgũm, dõgin etc

12. /bwe dõg/

When /dõg/ is joined with the Conjunction /bwe/ it forms the compound

bwe dõg-, ‘because of…’, ‘on account of…’, ‘on behalf of…’. ‘for…’.

This compound conjunction can appear as /dõg- bwe/.

Examples:

ọreit eibögi bue dögụ NG196 he is happy because of me

me erita n inuwowi bwe dõgũm Eze 26:16 and have dismaying fear because of you

13. Construct Particle /in/.

The Construct Particle /in/ is used to join words together.

a.

In a possessive phrase with an inalienably possessed noun, when the referent is a lexical noun or other word, the Construct Particle is used.

In Nauruan the Construct Particle when attached to nouns is homophonous with the form of the noun with the 3rd person singular possessive suffix.

men bũriõũmiã
eye+CONS heart+2P.POS
the eyes of your heart

met ãita Leah
eye+CONS female+MED Leah
the eyes of Leah/Leah’s eyes

/men/ i.e. /me/ with the 3rd person singular possessive suffix, without any other referent means ‘his/her/its eye/eyes’

b.

The Construct Particle /in/ is used in ‘Referential Noun Phrases’ where

the noun or phrase following the noun [or other word] to which the construct suffix is attached indicates the origin, source, location, content, or purpose of the thing being talked about. (Rehg 1981:191)

c.

The Construct Particle /in/ is used to form serial verbs or compound verbs in Nauruan

i.e. Verb 1 + Construct Particle + Verb 2

14. Dental Stop Regressive Assimilation.

Word-final /n/ undergoes regressive assimilation before a dental stop

Examples:

bwe dõgin deden > bwe dõgit deden = ‘because of his behaviour’

edonga in detaro > edonga n detaro > edonga t detaro = ‘persevere in prayer’

15. /dede/

/dede-/ has a wide range of meaning: ‘behaviour, habit, manner, treatment, ways’ and is an inalienable noun and so requires the possessive suffixes

i.e. dedeũ dedem deden etc

Cognate: Mokilese *den* ‘behaviour’

16. General Demonstrative, Singular Set

/ñune/ 'this thing here, this one here' is the emphatic proximal singular form of the General Demonstrative Set.

In the demonstrative regime of Nauruan, there is a simple form of the demonstrative devoid of any prefixes, which was the original demonstrative; but there are also four separate prefixes that have over time fused with the simple form, resulting in a possible five forms of a demonstrative.

There is one emphatic prefix /ña-, nga-/ (labelled E), and there are three non-emphatic prefixes.

The emphatic prefix element /ña-, nga-/ is found in various parts of the Oceanic family (Kiribati, North Ambrym, Mekeo among others) as an emphasizing or focusing element.

The three non-emphatic prefixes are

1. /min/, which through phonological reasons can appear as /mini/ or /mit/ (labelled NEI)
2. /mũ/ (labelled NEII), and
3. /bit (labelled NEIII)

The General Demonstrative Singular Set (apart from the simple forms) are used as demonstrative pronouns, as demonstrative adjectives, and as relativizers, and the Medial forms can also have just the function of the equivalent of a definite article with a very weak demonstrative function (see *Nauru Grammar*, page 11).

When the General Demonstrative Singular set are used as relativizers, the spatial suffixes are usually absent, the exception being the Emphatic Medial form ñ/ea, ngea/. In this study those forms where the vowel of the spatial suffix is deleted, is labelled 'MED+'.

Table 32. General Demonstrative Set, Singular Forms.

Proximity ↓	Form →	Simple Form	Emphatic Form (E)	Non-Emphatic Form (NEI) *min-*	Non-Emphatic Form (NEIII) *bit-*
Proximal		une	ngune, ñune	mitune	bitune
		Augmented Simple Form	Augmented Emphatic Form	Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form
		eune, iune	ngaeune, ñaiune	Unattested	tune
Medial		(una - Unattested) ia	ngea, ñea	mituna	(bituna - Unattested)
		Augmented Simple Form	Augmented Emphatic Form	Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form
		Unattested	Unattested	mita	bita
Distal		uno	nguno, ñuno	mituno	bituno
		Augmented Simple Form	Augmented Emphatic Form	Syncopated Form	Syncopated Form
		euno, iuno	ngaeuno, ñaiuno	Unattested	tuno

For more information, see “Nauruan Demonstratives” by the present writer (www.academia.edu/108407672).

17. Temporal Markers.

The Temporal Markers define the time at which an event occurs.

Table 33. Temporal Markers.

Degree of Proximity	Form
Proximal: 'at this time', 'now'	*ngage/ñage*
Medial: 'at that time', 'when (past occurrance)', 'then (past occurrance)'	*ngaga/ñaga*
Distal: 'at that time (more distant past)', 'when (more remote past occurrance)', 'then (more remote past occurrance)'	*ngago/ñago*

The underlying base is /ag/ with the Emphatic Prefix attached, and with appropriate spatial sufiixes.

In both the 1918 Bible and the 1976 New Testament, where the temporal marker appears without an apparent spatial suffix (i.e. *ngag/ñag*), this appears to be an orthographical convention to indicate that *'ngaga/ñaga'* TEMP+MED drops its final vowel before a following vowel, examples (and is represented in this study as TEMP+)

ñag ã eitsiõk Ge 1:1
ñag ar eitsiõk Ge 19:4
ñag e eitsiõk Ge 24:15
ñag A eitsiõk Ge 24:45
ñag e eitsiõk Ge 25:6
ñag eitsiõk Ge 29:8
ñag eitsiõk Ge 31:38
ñag e etistiõk Ge 37:18
ñag eitsiõk Ge 41:50
ñag A eitsiõk Ge 48:5
ñag eitsiõk Ex 1:19

18. Vowel Elision.

/me/, 'and'; /bwe/, 'for'; /ta, ita/, 'only'; /ia/ Conditional Marker; /re/, 'they'; /wo/, 'you', regularly undergo vowel elision when the following element begins with a vowel, but there is no consistency in the orthographies.

/me/, 'and'; /bwe/, 'for'; /ta, ita/, 'only'; /ia/ Conditional Marker; /re/, 'they', are often written with a 'dummy' vowel, i.e. :

In Example 2 /ro ogin/ is taken to represent /r ogin/.

/me/, 'and', /bwe/, 'for', and /re/, 'they' usually assimilate to the initial vowel of /ita/, 'only', and /inan/, Unrealized Aspect Marker, i.e.

me + ita > mi ta	me + inan > mi nan
bwe + ita > bwi ta	bwe + inan > bwi nan
re + ita > ri ta	re + inan > ri nan

This is further reflected when /me/, /bwe/, and /re/ precede frozen compounds incorporating /ita/ such as:

tamo, any < ta + amo

> mi tamo etc

tekei, (it is) like < ta + eke + ei

> mi tekei

tik, still < ta + ik

> mi tik

teñ, teng want < ta + ãeñ wish, desire

> mi teñ

/mi/ seems to be the preferred form before words whose first syllable is 'ti', 'tũ', or 'tu', such as *'tuwin' 'tũ' 'tsimor' 'tsiet' 'tsibemin' 'tũren' 'turañañ', 'tin'.*

19. /ro/.

The 3rd Person Singular and Plural Dependent Pronouns usually take the form /o/ and /ro/ when the following word has 'o' or 'u' in the first syllable, or initial 'kw' or 'mw'.

Examples:

ro roudan
3P.DEP remove+DIR8
remove from

opwopwar
3S.DEP+purple
it is/was purple

20. /tuwen/.

/tuwen/ i.e. /duwen/ 'his flesh, his body'.

/duw/ is an inalienable noun and so requires the possessive suffixes.

i.e. duwõ duwõm duwen

21. /ngaena/.

/ngaena/ 'that patch there' is the emphatic medial singular form of the Demonstrative Set for Classifier 1[16].

Table 34. Demonstrative Set for Classifier 1[16].

Classifier Number (*Nauru Grammar* classifier number in brakets)	Classifier form and meaning	Spatial location	Simple	Emphatic	NEI	NEII
1(16)	ae [aʲæ] piece of flat things, patch	Proximal	aene	ṅaene	minaene	mụaene/maene
		Medial	aena	ṅaena	minaena	mụaena/maena
		Distal	aeno	ṅaeno	minaeno	mụaeno/maeno

In Example 2, /ngaena gawiden opwopwar/, 'that piece of purple cloth of his' , i.e. 'his purple garment'.

22. /gawid/.

/gawiden/ 'his robe etc' is an inalienable noun so requires the possessive suffixes.

i.e. gawidõ gawidõm gawiden

In keeping with a general Nauruan rule, unless otherwise indicated by context or qualifying words, 3rd person reference is by default male.

23. General Cardinal Numeral.

/aikwen/ is the general cardinal numeral 'one'.

Table 35. General Cardinal Numerals 1 to 9.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
aiquen (1918) aiquön (NG) aikwen (1976) [ekwen] [éi̯kʷʌn]	aro	aiju (1918, NG) aiyu (1976) [e̯ju] [eju/ei̯ju]	aeoq (1918, NG) aeoq,aeokw (1976) [æe̯okʷ] [æi̯ʌkʷ]	aijimo (1918) aijimeo (NG) aiyimo (1976) [e̯jimʲo] [ei̯jimʌ]	añ̇o (1918) añ̇o (NG) ango (1976)	aeiu (1918,1976) aeu (NG) [eiju] [ei̯u]	aoju,aoiju (1918) auju,auiju (NG) aoiyu, auiyu (1976) [oju] [oju]	ado

A number of phonetic changes have taken place since the first part of the 20th Century.

1. the vowel sequence /ai/ is now pronounced /e/
2. the vowel sequence /ao, au/ is now pronounced /o/
3. between high vowels, /j/ (which represents the palatal glide) is moving towards a fricated allophone, [e̯]
4. /aikwen/ is phonemicized slightly differently by Hughes and Blumenfeld [ekwen]/[éi̯kʷʌn]
5. /aiju/ is phonemicized slightly differently by Hughes and Blumenfeld [e̯ju]/[eju/ei̯ju]
6. /aeoq/ is phonemicized slightly differently by Hughes and Blumenfeld [æe̯okʷ]/[æi̯ʌkᵂ]
7. /aijimo/ is phonemicized slightly differently by Hughes and Blumenfeld [e̯jimjo]/[ei̯jimʌ]
7. /aeiu/ is phonemicized slightly differently by Hughes and Blumenfeld [eiju]/[ei̯u]

24. General Possessive Classifier.

Inalienable nouns have been discussed in Note 9.

Alienable nouns are marked with an indirect possession construction that requires a possessive classifier - with the appropriate possessive suffix - that precedes the alienable noun.

The General Possessive Classifier is one of two Possessive Classifiers used for alienable possession, which is required for all nouns not in the inalienable noun class.

Kayser states that this General Possessive Classifier is used "used for objects in a relationship of outright possession or 'ownership' (NG20).

Table 36. Basic Template for the Alienable Possessive Phrase.

Function Slot 1	Function Slot 2	Function Slot 3	Function Slot 4 + or -
Possessive Classifier	Possessive Suffix referencing Possessor	Possessum	Possessor

37. General Possessive Classifier.

Number	1st person	1st inclusive	1st exclusive	2nd person	3rd person
Singular	aeõ/aeo aũ/au			am aeõm/aeam	an aen
Dual		adar/attar	amar	amũrõr/amuror	aũrõr/auror
Trial		adei/atteiy	amei/ameiy	amiei /amieiy	aũrei/aureiy
Plural		ada/atta	ama	amiã /amie	aũra /aura

25. Animate Demonstrative Set, Plural Forms.

/mibuna/ ‘those people there’ is the Non-Emphatic I medial form of the the Animate Plural Demonstrative Set.

Table 38. Animate Plural Demonstrative Set.

Proximity ↓	Form →	Simple Form	Emphatic Form (E)	Non-Emphatic *min-* Form (NEI)
Proximal		bũne	ñabũne	minibũne
				Syncopated Form
				mibũne[1]
Medial		bũna	ñabũna	minibũna
				Syncopated Form
				mibũna[1]
Distal		bũno	ñabũno	minibũno
				Syncopted Form
				mibũno[1]

Note

1 Kayser lists a variant for with <mu> initial syllable.

This set is formed from the element /bũn/ with the spatial suffixes added.

This simple form is then expanded by adding the Emphatic Prefix /ña, nga/ and the Non-Emphatic Prefixes /min/.

The element /bũn, bun/ is related to the word /ibũn, ibun/ ‘some’.

The simple forms are used for both males and females.

The Emphatic and Non-Emphatic forms when used as relativizers are used for both males and females.

There are gender-specific forms when used as demonstratives derived from this set.

26. Emphatic Personal Pronoun.

Independent and Emphatic pronouns are used for emphasis and contrast, and there is a certain overlap with the two forms.

Use of 3rd Singular Emphatic Pronoun .

In Example 4, /tuwen ngeiy/ 'his body', /ngeiy/ is used to show that it is not referring to a new participant in the discourse but is co-referent with the previously mentioned subject.

And so with

Example 169 /ñabũna re miow ñei/ 'those ones who fear him'

Example 193 /enim õũga bet at eñame tik õõũne ñei/ 'the man's injuring him'

Example 343 /doganigae a woten ura eow ean okor ngeiy/ 'had successfully triumphed over them by means of him'

26a. Independent Personal Pronoun.

Independent and Emphatic pronouns are used for emphasis and contrast, and there is a certain overlap with the two forms.

They are used:

1. for emphasis

t anga a … as for me/I myself I…

2. in Equative Clauses

eiy bita ecclesia
3S.IND NEIII+MED ecclesia
it is the ecclesia

3. after /tekei/

tekei auwe
like you

4. in reflexive verbal constructions

a eke anga angame iot amen rieow eat edogor
1S.DEP make 1S.IND person INDF male.for transgress on+CONS AB+law
I make myself a transgressor in the law

5. as Object Pronouns with dispreferred or ambigous sound sequences.

eõ totow auwe…õraijedu auwe 'not give you…cast you out'

me oiyoten anga 'and already sent me out'

6. Contemporary Nauruan often uses the Independent Pronouns instead of the Dependent Pronouns, i.e.

iken ata nim riring
what 1P.INC.IND MOD do
what must we do

27. Equative Clauses.

In an Equative Clause, two phrases are juxtaposed. There is no connecting verb.

eiy bita ecclesia
3S.IND NEIII+MED ecclesia
it is the ecclesia

Negative Equative Clauses are introduced by the portmanteau /deõ/t'eo [only + Negative particle]/.

28. both Examples 5 and 6 are irregular, as the expected outcomes are

bait ikirira and

bait ikumo

29. Contrafactual Conditional Clauses.

Contrafactual Conditional Clauses are usually marked by /ago/, or a temporal phrase incorporating /ago/.

The base /ag/ seems to be shared with the Temporal Markers (see Note 17).

30. Adpositions.

Adpositions and adposition-like phrases (with the exception of /ea, a/, 'to', and compound adpositions incorporating /ea, a/ - see Note 32) take the possessive suffixes associated with Inalienable Possession to indicate its complement (see Note 9). In some descriptions of languages they are referred to as 'Relational Nouns' as they take the possessive suffixes, as do inalienable nouns.

Examples:

animw-, on top of, atop of, over

atsin ea-, out from (surface), from off, away from

atsin ia-, out from (within), out of

atsin inimag- , from among

atsin itañ-, from beside

atsin itũr-, from (see tsini-)

ea-, on

ea 'on me' eam 'on you' ean 'on him/her/it'

ean (at the end of clauses), by it

edõgen, on the side of it, in the direction of it

ia-, in, within

ia 'in me' iam 'in you' ian 'in him/her/it'

ian me-, in the sight of, before

ian obw-, in front of, before

ijõñ-, iyong, below, under

ijugaga-, between, (in) the middle/centre of

ijugaga 'in my middle' ijugagam 'in you middle' ijugagan 'in his/her/its middle'

inimagen, in between it

iruw-,irow-, after, behind, outside

itañ-, alongside, by

itirũr-, by the side of, alongside

itũga-, ituga-, above, over

itũr-, itur-, by, by means of, through

iwugaga-, between, (in) the middle/centre of

iwugaga 'in my middle' iwugagam 'in you middle' iwugagan 'in his/her/its middle'

mwimw-, in front of

tsini-, tini-, from (see atsin itũr-)

tsiniũ ‘from me’ tsinim ‘from you’ tsinin ‘from him/her/it’

31. /eken/.

/eken/ is the Indefinite Determiner for Classifier 20[21], ‘small part’.

The construction

V + eken + ea

is used for comparitive clauses

omo eken aeõ oija aw ea aeõ oija eñame ion ekae
my giving to you is better than my giving to a different person

32. **Adposition /ea, a/ ‘to’.**

The adposition /ea, a/ is used to indicate

(a) the indirect object of verbs, ‘to the recipient of verbal action’.

(b) when governed by a verb, to modify the outcome of the verb

(c) for use in comparative clauses, ‘than X’

(d) with spatial or temporal uses: until, up to a point in time or distance

(e) for, on behalf of

The adposition /ea, a/ does not follow the usual pattern of adpositions – these normally take the inalienable possessive suffixes to indicate their complement (see Note 30). Rather, /ea, a/ attaches the Objective forms of the Personal Pronouns to itself. The only exceptions are the irregular 1st Person Singular form /eame, ame/ and the default 3rd Person Singular form /ea, a/.

Compound adpositions incorporating /ea, a/ follow the same pattern: /epo a/, ‘together with’; /goeow a/, ‘far from’; /obwo a/, ‘against’; /tũren a/, ‘near to, close by’.

The term ‘default’ that is used in the above paragraph means in this study that whenever the 3rd Person Singular form /ea,a/ does not govern a following word, it automatically means ‘to him/her/it’ and is glossed to+3S in the interlinear of this study. The forms with /ea/ appear to be usual where the preceeding word ends with an /a/.

Table 39. Adposition /ea, a/ 'to' with person/object reference:

	Singular	Dual		Trial		Plural	
1st Person	eame/ame ea me/a me	EXC	ea/a gamar ea/a kamar	EXC	ea/a gamei ea/a kameiy	EXC	ea/a gama ea/a kama
		INC	ea/a gadar ea/a kattar	INC	ea/a gadei ea/a katteiy	INC	ea/a gada ea/a katta
2nd Person	eaw/aw ea uw/a uw	ea/a gamũrõr ea/a kamuror		ea/a gamiei ea/a kamieiy		ea/a gamiã ea/a kamie	
3rd Person	ea, a	ea/a ũrõr ea/a uror		ea/a ũrei ea/a ureiy		ea/a ũra ea/a ura	

32a. With some verbs ending in /a/, the combination V_a/ + ea (3rd Persons Singular) is simplified to V_a/

Examples:

eagada + ea > eagada

oija + ea > oija

32b. Where a verb that is governed by the adposition /ea, a/ is modified by the addition of the Perfective Aspect Suffix, some phonological changes take place :

In cases where the recipient of the action in 1st and 2nd Person Singular, the Perfective Aspect Suffix is attached directly to the adposition, i.e.:

V + ame + -en > V + amen

V + aw + -en > V + awen

In the case of the 3rd Person Singular, the Velar Nasal Infix occurs between the adposition and the Perfective Aspect Suffix, i.e.:

V + a + -en > V + angen

This pattern is followed with the Plural recipients, i.e.:

V + ea + kamuror + -en > V + angen kamuror

V + ea, a + uror + -en > V + angen uror

V + ea, a + ureiy + -en > V + angen ureiy

V + ea, a + ura + -en > V + angen ura

33. Vowel Elision of 3rd Person Singular Dependent Pronoun.

/ekae/ is a /e/ vowel initial verb so the 3rd Person Singular Dependent Pronoun surfaces as 'zero',

i.e. e + ekae > ekae
e + eare > eare

The same applies to /o/ initial verbs

i.e. o + ouwak > ouwak

34. /ion…ion/.

/ion/ is the General Indefinite Determiner 'a, an'.

However, in the construction /ion…ion…/, this equates to the English 'one…other'.

34a.

Where the noun to which the construction applies is attached to a Classifier, the Classificatory Indefinite Determiner is used (usually preceded by the appropriate Classificatory Demonstrative), i.e. in Example 57

ijor eat eran me ean bet ñarana eran
AB+post on+CONS INDF+CL30[3] & on+CONS also E+CL30[3]+MED INDF+CL30[3]
also the post on the one side and also on the other side

35. Existential Clauses.

The Nauruan Existential Clause uses the verb /tsimine/ ‘exist’, ‘be (in a state)’ for positive clauses.

The verb /eko/ (or /ekeow/) ’be not’ is used as the negative existential verb, ‘there is not’.

Examples:

eko eratequõ ine ‘there is no stranger here’.

enim eko eñame ion emetan ‘there should not be a man going out from… /let no man go out fom…’

36. Ordinal Numerals.

In pre-colonial Nauru there was no specific ordinal numeral category.

According to Kayser (“Nauru Grammar” page 74)

> *There is no ordinal numeral in Nauruan nor even the notion of it.*
>
> *An object in a row will be pointed out by using the cardinal numeral joined with a designating clause.*
>
> *e.g.*
>
> *äräruweij a me ko murana tebook auju panon*
> *extend+DIR12 to 1S.DAT COMM NEII+CL30[3]+MED book eight on.sea.side+3S.POS*
> *pass me the 9th book on the row [Literally: pass me the book eight (books) on his sea side]*
>
> *which means that there are eight books before it on the direction of the sea and the pointed at is the 9th*

With the advent of Christian missionaries, these adopted the Distributive Numeral with the Construct Particle attached to fill the gap.

Examples:

/quaeiun/ is based on the distributive numeral for seven, /quaeiu/, with the Construct Particle attached
/katijut/ is based on the distributive numeral for three, /katiju/, with the Construct Particle attached

37. 3rd Person Singular Dependent Pronoun /ã/.

An orthographic convention of the 1918 Bible is that whenever the agent of a clause is indefinite, instead of the usual /e/ for the 3rd Person Singular Dependent Pronoun, /ã/ is written instead.

These indefinite actor clauses are often best rendered in English by a passive construction.

Example:

ã ij egen ñamwarina etañ bwe Gilgal
3S.DEP chose name+CONS E+CL23[22]+MED AB+place for Gilgal
one chose the name of that place as Gilgal / that place was called Gilgal

38. /ñeijin/.

/ñeijina/ is the emphatic medial form of the Demonstrative for Classifier 11[7], and /ñeijin/ is the form when it acts as a relativizer, 'the (word) that…'.

Table 40. Demonstrative Set for Classifier 11[7].

Classifier Number (*Nauru Grammar* classifier number in brakets)	Classifier form and meaning	Spatial location	Simple	Emphatic	NEI	NEII
11(7)	eiji/eiyi [eɜi] words	Proximal	eijine	ṅaeijine/ngeijine	mineijine	mueijine
		Medial	eijina	ṅaeijina/ngeijina	mineijina	mueijina
		Distal	eijino	ṅaeijino/ngeijino	mineijino	mueijino

Example:

ã pan ñeijin ũge
3S.DEP speak E+CL11[7]+MED+ say
one speaks the word which says…/ it is told the word which says…

39. **/ñarana/**.

/ñarana/ is the emphatic medial form of the Demonstrative for Classifier 30[3], and /ñaran/ is the form when it acts as a relativizer, 'the (flat object) that…'.

Table 41. Demonstrative Set for Classifier 30[3].

Classifier Number (*Nauru Grammar* classifier number in brakets)	Classifier form and meaning	Spatial location	Simple	Emphatic	NEI	NEII
30(3)	ra [rʰæ] objects conceived of as presenting a flat surface	Proximal	rane	ṅarane	minirane	murine
		Medial	rana	ṅarana	minirana	murana
		Distal	rano	ṅarano	minirano	murano

Example:

iat buch ñaran an ake Jehova
in+CONS book E+CL30[3]+MED+ GPOS+3SPOS fight Jehovah
in the book that (is) 'The wars of Jehovah'

40. /ñamwarina/.

/ñamwarina/ is the emphatic medial form of the Demonstrative for Classifier 23[22], 'that (place) there'.

Table 42. Demonstrative Set for Classifier 23[22].

Classifier Number (*Nauru Grammar* classifier number in brakets)	Classifier form and meaning	Spatial location	Simple	Emphatic	NEI	NEII
23(22)	mwari [mʷʌrʰi] larger piece, large part of an object	Proximal	mwarine	ngamwarine	minimwarine	mumwarine
		Medial	mwarina	ngamwarina	minimwarina	mumwarina
		Distal	mwarino	ngamwarine	minimwarino	mumwarino

Example:

ã ij egen ñamwarina etañ bwe Gilgal
3S.DEP chose name+CONS E+CL23[22]+MED AB+place for Gilgal
one chose the name of that place as Gilgal / that place was called Gilgal

41. /eñan/.

The root /eñ/ means one's place, and in the form /eñan/ means 'the place'. It takes the possessive suffixes, i.e.

eñõ eñam eñan

42. /eg/.

/eg/ is the base form for 'name'. It is an inalianable noun, so taks the possessive suffixes, i.e.

egõ egõm egen

43. /eke/.

/eke/ 'make, act as'

ã eken kaiwedurei
3S.DEP make+PERF captain+3T.POS
he was made their captain'

When /eke/ is in a verbal phrase: actor + eke + Independent Personal Pronoun reflective of object
or
actor + eke + object
= 'make s.o. X'

Examples:

A nan eke auwe eponñame ñea ouwak Ge 12:2 will make you a great nation
A nan ek'auwe imin in kamiow ea aw Je 20:4 I will make you a frightful thing to you
Jehova ogiten ek'auwe priester n ñeijubwen Jojada ñea priester Je 29:26 Jehovah has made you a priest instead of Jehoiada the priest
ñea eõ tũebõn Gott, e eken amen tabaite ñei 1John 5:10 the one who does not believe in God, he has made him (God) a liar

43a.

When /eke/ is in a verbal phrase: actor + eke + Independent Personal Pronoun reflective of actor = 'make oneself/ become'

Examples:

A nim eke aña amea magit ogoda Is 14:14 I will make myself The Most High
A nan eke aña wañara Gott Eze 34:24;36:28 I will make myself/become their God
A nan eke aña wañara Gott Eze I will make myself/become their God
t anga a eke anga12 Ga 2:18 as for me, I make myself...
wo ek'auwe bet monibaima Nu 16:13 you make yourself also our ruler
wo teñ eke auwe wañara uea Ne 6:6 you want to make yourself/become their king
wo nim eke auwe epe ogoda Ps 71:3 make yourself/become a high rock
ia wo eke auwe aeõ tsiõ Is 49:6 that would make yourself/become my servant
wo nan eke auwe itema ea ũra Eze 24:27 you will make yourself/you will become a sign to them
wo ririñuw bwe wo nim ek'auwe ijegen? John 8:53 you do to yourself so that you should make yourself (to be) whom?/whom do you make yourself out to be?
me dõgin bet am ek'auwe Gott John 10:33 and because also your making yourself God

Noa õren ekei amen kião Ge 9:16 Noah had just become a cultivator
amea õaweijida n ekei eñame ion ñea oaio eat eb Ge 10:8 he began to make himself a mighty man on the land
ñea te ei ekei prophet ea gamiã Je 29:27 the one who has made himself/become prophet to you
tamo ñea te ei ekei uea John 19:12 whoever makes himself king
eimwi bwi ion inimagen ñabũne enim ekei dañada n oduwen an rida Ac 1:22 it is right that one among these ones should become our companion in witnessing (about) his resurrection
mi nan ekei itũr equan Ac 2:20 and the sun will become dark
bwi iduwen õkõr bwe Gott eririñ bwe enim ekei Temoniba me Messias Ac 2:36 for it is true that God has done it so that he [Jesus] should become Lord and Messiah
e eatow õañan ñea raitsitsin, mõ õ õgõg dedet itsiõ, me ekeijiet eñame Philippians 2:7 he abandoned the fullness which is his glory and took hold of the habits of a slave and then became a human

44. Elision of Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker.

The Nominal Prefix/Absolute Marker is elided before a noun that is /e/ initial,

i.e.	e+ eñan	>	eñan
	e + eb	>	eb

45. /eñame/.

/ñame/ can variously mean human, person, people depending on context and .

In keeping with a general Nauruan rule, unless otherwise indicated by context or qualifying words, reference is by default male.

46. /nat/.

The Unrealized Aspect arker /nan/ undergoes denasalization before verbs with initial diphthong with the loss of the first vowel, i.e.

nan eagada	>	nat agada

47. /emaen/.

/emaen/ is the Indefinite Determiner for Classifier 21[4] /mae/ used for long, rigid objects.

As a Nauruan idiom, this Indefinite Determiner often carries the meaning of 'half', as in this instance.

48. General Demonstrative Set, Plural Forms.

===

/mungana/ is the Non-Emphatic II medial form of the General Demonstrative, Plural Set 'those things there'.

Table 43. General Demonstrative Set, Plural Forms.

Proximity	Simple Form	Emphatic Form (E)	Non-Emphatic *min-* Form (NEI)	Non-Emphatic *mũ/mu* Form (NEII)	Non-Emphatic *bit-* Form (NEIII)
Proximal	ane	ñane	minane Syncopated form mane	mũñane	absent
Medial	ana	ñana	minana Syncopated form mana	mũñane	absent
Distal	ano	ñano	minano Syncopated form mano	mũñane	absent

49. **Reduced vowels**

The 3rd Person Dependent Pronouns, Singular and Plural, appear sometimes as /õ/, /rõ/. These are taken to be reduced forms.

Example:

ro kaiyotiet engog 'they are now hearing/they already hear words

Further, when 'me' precedes a reduced form of the 3rd person dependent pronoun, it is written 'mõ', as in Example 14,

'*mõ rõ kamararei Jesu*', 'they conspired against Jesus'

50. Perfective Aspect Suffix /en/.

When a verb is modified by the Perfective Aspect Suffix '-en', there are several syntactic results:

a. the Perfective Aspect Suffix appears in the form '-ien' before transitive verbs:

Examples

/kaiyotien/ 'already heard'
/mwitien añõg/ 'already judged'
/õbũien/ 'already taken/

b. it is fronted to the head of the clause, and it is by default 3rd Person unless indicated by context or otherwise; and the default is male third person.

51. Relative Possessive Classifier.

Inalienable nouns have been discussed in Note 9.

Alienable nouns are marked with an indirect possession construction that requires a possessive classifier - with the appropriate possessive suffix - that precedes the alienable noun.

The Relative Possessive Classifier is one of two Possessive Classifiers used for alienable possession, which is required for all nouns not in the inalienable noun class. The General Possessive Classifier is dealt with in Note 24.

Kayser states that this Relative Possessive Classifier is used for "actual use of a thing, the permanent or transitory possession of a thing" (NG20).

Table 36. Basic Template for the Alienable Possessive Phrase.

Function Slot 1	Function Slot 2	Function Slot 3	Function Slot 4 + or -
Possessive Classifier	Possessive Suffix referencing Possessor	Possessum	Possessor

Table 44. Relative Possessive Classifier.

Number	1st person	1st inclusive	1st exclusive	2nd person	3rd person
Singular	wanga/ wonga/ waña	----------	----------	wam	wan/won/wõn; wanna/wõnõ
Dual	----------	warar/wõrar	wamar/ wõmar	wamuror/ wamũrõr	wongaror/ wõñarõr
Trial	----------	wareiy/warei	wameiy/wam ei	wamieiy/ wamiãi	wangareiy/ wañarei
Plural	----------	wora/wara/ wõra	wama	wamie/wamiã	wangara/ wañara

The Relative Possessive Classifier forms are used also as Possessive Pronouns (NG25). The 3rd Person Singular form '*wõnõ, wanna*' is only used as a Possessive Pronoun.

52. Epenthetic Vowel.

When a final consonant of one word meets an initial consonant of the following word in a phrase, Nauruan usually interposes an epenthetic vowel (a non-syllabic "schwa" vowel /ə/) between the two consonants if the combination of the two consonants is, as Rebecca Morley observed:

"sequences that are disallowed or dispreferred within the language." (see her article "Consonant Epenthesis", https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com)

The translators do not consistently show the epenthetic vowel, and when they do it can be represented by ‘e’ or ‘i’ or ‘o’ or ‘õ’.

In Example 41 /eren/ is taken to be the verb /ren/ preceded by an epenthetic vowel.

53. **Classificatory Cardinal Numeral.**

The Classificatory Cardinal Numeral is formed thus:

/a/ Numeral Particle + Numeral + Classifier

The low numerals 1 to 4 have fused forms.

In Example 45, /aijūra/ is the numeral 3 for Classifier 30[3].

Table 45. Classificatory Cardinal Numerals 1 to 4 for Classifier 30[3].

Classifier	1	2	3	4
30 [3] ra [rʰæ]	airan	arura	aijira	ara

54. /eran/.

/eran/ is the Indefinite Determiner for Classifier 30[3], objects presenting a flat surface.

55. /apen/.

In the 1918 Bible many consonant initial nouns appear with an initial /a/ when possessivized or followed by the Construct Particle.

Examples:

apen

arobun

56. Gerundive.

The Gerundive produces a passive verbal noun, i.e.:

/auwãen/ his being loved, the loving (of) him, that by which he is loved

In keeping with a general Nauruan rule, unless otherwise indicated by context or qualifying words, reference is by default male.

Table 46. Gerundive suffixes.

		Singular	Dual	Trial	Plural
1st Person		eõ -eo -äö			
1st person	inclusive		-edar -etar -ätar	-edei -eteiy -äteij	-eda -eta -äta
	exclusive		-emar -ämar	-emei -emeiy -ämeij	-ema -äma
2nd person		-em -äm	-emũrõr -emuror -ämu̯rör	-emiei -emieiy -ämieij	-emiã -emie -ämie
3rd person		-en -än	-eõrõr -eoror -äörör	-eõrei -eoreiy -äöreij	-eõra -eora -äöra

57. Conditional Clause.

The Conditional Marker /tsin ia/ia/ is used for General and Logical Conditions, or Factual Conditions, i.e. the results of a condition that is either true or likely or feasable - and when projected into the future, the future results of a probable or expected condition.

The conditional clause has two parts: first, the condition that allows something to happen; and second, the result. In the Nauruan language factual conditions are usually introduced by /tsin ia/ if phrase initial, otherwise by /ia/ [if, when] and the result is indicated by /inan, nan/ , the Unrealized Aspect Marker in positive results, or for negative results by /eab/, the Negative Unrealized Aspect Marker. The negative result can also appear as /inan eab, nan eab/ and /inan eõ, nan eõ/.

It appears that /ia/ represented an intial non-syllabic vowel glide [i̯a]; this has become yodicized to [ja], and in contemporary Nauruan its sound varies from /j/ to the fricated sound [ʝ], which is gaining the upper hand:

The vowel in /ia/ is regularly elided when the following syllable begins with a vowel.

Table 47. Basic Template for Conditional Clauses.

Condition	Result	Negative Result
tsin ia/tin ia ia	inan, nan	eab inan eab, nan eab inan eõ, nan eõ

58.

A demonstrative that is being used a a relativizer when it is followed by a verb phrase is generally followed by the appropriate dependent personal pronoun attached to the verb. However, it is frequently omitted where the actor is 3rd Person.

59. Default 3rd Person.

When a verb (or a verb preceded by an aspect marker or a pre-verbal adverb or conjunction) is at the head of a verb phrase, and has no overt person maker, it is by default 3rd Person, and unless indicated by context or otherwise, the default is Male third person.

59a. 'ghost' Vowel.

When a verb (or a verb preceded by an aspect marker or a pre-verbal adverb or conjunction) is at the head of a verb phrase, and has no overt person maker, it is by default 3rd Person, and unless indicated by context or otherwise, the default is Male third person. But the translators overcompensate by often putting a 'ghost' vowel to indicate it is a 3rd Person actor.

In addition, the ghost vowel may be preceded by a 'dummy' vowel (see Note 18).

Both the 'dummy vowel' and the 'ghost vowel' are orthographic conventions.

So, in Example 55

mõ õ õweijoran 'he set it up' is taken to represent /m õweijoran/

60. 'to have' Constructions.

Nauruan does not have a verb 'to have', so various constructions are used.

a. Nauruan uses an existential clause

> õten, etsimine tokit eñõg ñan etsimine woun? 'is there an end of the words that there exists its worth?/ is there an end of the words that have value?'
>
> etsimine ñain Laban arumet ãn 'Laban had two daughters'

b. Nauruan uses an existential clause with the adposition /tũr/, i.e. /etsimine tũrin/ 'there is with him'; /eko tũrin/ ,'there is not with him', 'he does not have'

c. 'have X number' by juxtaposing the number with a possessive noun phrase

Example:

> ngea aro won coat 'the one who has two coats', literally: 'the one who two his coats'.

The Negative 'to have' Clauses use the negative existential verb /eko/

Example:

> ñag eko itũrin 'since he has nothing'
>
> amea ngea ekeow wona ion 'that man who does not have one of his own'

61. Modal Aspect Marker.

There are a number of optional contractions of non-singular dependent personal pronouns with the Modal Aspect Marker.

Table 48. Contractions of non-singular dependent Personal Pronouns combined with Modal Aspect Marker.

Person		Dual	Trial	Plural
1st	Inclusive	ar [ær] + nim > arũm, ar um	aij + nim > aijũm	añ + nim > añũm, ang um
				Syncopated form
				a'm, am
	Exclusive	amar + nim > amarũm, mar um	amei + nim > ameijũm, meiy um	ama + nim > amaim, ma um
				Syncopated form
				amam
2nd		amwar + nim > amwarũm, mwar um	amwei + nim > amweiũm, mweiy um	amwa + nim > amwaim, mwa um, mwa ụm
				Syncopated form
				amwam
3rd		ar / ör/or [ʌr] + nim > arũm, ör üm, or um	arei + nim > areiũm, reiy um	No merged form

62. Use of Female Demonstratives for mixed-gender groups.

In Nauruan, when speaking of a mixed-gender group, the female gender-specific demonstratives take precedence.

63. Male Demonstrative Set, Singular Forms

See Section 25 of this study.

64. Animate Cardinal Numeral.

There is a limited number of fused forms for the Animate Cardinal Numeral. The General Cardinal Numerals are used where no specific Animate Cardinal Numeral exists.

Table 49. Distinctive Animate Cardinal Numerals.

Animate Cardinal Numerals (with defectives and suppletives)					
Two	Three	Four	Ten	Twenty	Thirty
arumen	aijimen aiyimen	amen	waea oäa, oea ◊	aruma	aijumo ayumo

Note:

◊ Nauruan Bible (1918) has *waea* as the form for 10 living beings; the spelling given in *Nauru Grammar* (pages 43,70) for 10 living beings is *oäa [wea]* , as it is (almost always) in *Testament Etimeduw 1976* [*oea*] – which translation is accredited to Kayser.

65. Demonstrative Cardinal Numeral.

/murowa/ is the medial form of the Demonstrative Cardinal Numeral for 2, ‘those two there’.

50. Demonstrative Cardinal Numerals 1 – 4.

		Simple form	Emphatic	NEI	NEII
One	Proximal	aiquönǫ̱e	ṅaiquönǫ̱e	minaiquönǫ̱e	mụ̱aiquönǫ̱e
	Medial	aiquönǫ̱a	ṅaiquönǫ̱a	minaiquönǫ̱a	mụ̱aiquönǫ̱a
	Distal	aiquönǫ̱o	ṅaiquönǫ̱o	minaiquönǫ̱o	mụ̱aiquönǫ̱o
Two	Proximal	roụ̱e	ṅaroụ̱e ñarowe ((1918)	miniroụ̱e	mụ̱roụ̱e murowe (1918,1976))
	Medial	roụ̱a	ṅaroụ̱a ñarowa ((1918) ngarowa (1976)	miniroụ̱a	mụ̱roụ̱a murowa (1918,1976)
	Distal	roụ̱o	ṅaroụ̱o	miniroụ̱o	mụ̱roụ̱o
Three	Proximal	juụ̱e	ṅaijuụ̱e	minijuụ̱e	mụ̱ijuụ̱e
	Medial	juụ̱a	ṅaijuụ̱a	minijuụ̱a	mụ̱ijuụ̱a
	Distal	juụ̱o	ṅaijuụ̱o	minijuụ̱o	mụ̱ijuụ̱o
Four	Proximal	aeoquǫ̱e	ṅaeoquǫ̱e	minaeoquǫ̱e minaeoquõe (1918)	mụ̱aeoquǫ̱e
	Medial	aeoquǫ̱a	ṅaeoquǫ̱a	minaeoquǫ̱a	mụ̱aeoquǫ̱a
	Distal	aeoquǫ̱o	ṅaeoquǫ̱o	minaeoquǫ̱	mụ̱aeoquǫ̱o

66. Classificatory Cardinal Numeral.

/aebwetsin/ is the Classificatory Cardinal Numeral for 1 for Classifier 7[18,19]

Table 51. Classificatory Cardinal Numerals 1 to 4 for Classifier 7[18,19].

Classifier	1	2	3	4
7 [19/18] bwetsi/bweti/bueti~ mwetsi/mweti/mueti [bweitˢi~bweiʒi/ mweitˢi~mweiʒi]	aibuetin, aimuetin aebwetsin, aibwetsin (1918) aibwetin (1976)	arabueij, aramueij arabwei, aramwei (1918) arabweiy (1976)	aijụbueij, aijụmweij	abueij amueij

67. Numeral Particle.

The Numeral Particle is used to form higher numbers (i.e. above 4) in the Classificatory Cardinal Numeral Set. It is formed thus:

a, Numeral Prefix + Classifier + in/n Constract Particle

In Example 149, /awõrin/ is the Numeral Particle for Classifier 35[23], number of times.

68. The adposition /ea-/ , 'on'.

The adposition 'ea-' , 'on' has a number of usages and meanings.

(a) It usually translates as a stationary condition of 'on (a surface)'.

Examples:

e r̲o̲qu̲o̲ aeö mäg ean bitune äb NG201 my stay in this island is long

ean bitune eäb Naoero eö i ta timine ini me epo bue eteto bät me io me iuw imin e rö ṅan e bak NG209 on this land Naoero there are not only coconuts and pandanus but almonds also and tamano and many more plants
[Kayser: on this island of Nauru there are not only coconut trees and pandanus but almonds also and tamano and many other plants]

maedu ṅamana e mägeda ean me timoren in tụk ibua emaen NG214 that branch he was sitting on broke off and he was then saved seizing another [Kayser: the branch on which he was sitting broke off and he saved himself by seizing another]

eaṅamä memag eat äb bait ekegen? NG215 for what purpose are people on earth?

an jägen mururaoa iwur eat jor? NG217 whose shells are those two hanging on the post?

nimen jägen murowuroa eat jor? NG217 whose drinks are those two shellsful on the post?

(b) it can be translated as ‘at’, ‘on’ or ‘in’ in conjunction with time.

Examples:

a nan otten man, ṅaga a nụm mäg inno ean o ata? NG165 how will I manage it since I must be there at ten? [Kayser: what must I do if I have to be there at ten o’clock?]

wo nan akorda ubuiö ean o aṅo i’emerö NG168 come to my house at six this evening

tük ean dae ia/ean tük dae ia NG192 at that same time

ean bum ana NG192 at that time/in those days

eaṅamä memag ri nan rida ean magit bum NG203 all mankind will rise on the last day

eat bum ibumin NG218 on one day

(c) it can also be translated as ‘by, by means of’.

Examples:

ean NG195 by (it)

ean NG195,197 by means of (it)

a oijuwotow ean muijan waṅa kumo NG195 I recognize it by means of the mark of my pig [Kayser: I recognize my pig by the ear mark]

ean̲a̲wa̲r eij bita emogur eaṅamä re timoreow ean NG200 fishing is the work people live (well) by means of it [Kayser: fishing is the work which makes people well off]

r ebak ṅabuna re dura ṅaga bät re tiet ṅana ri nan maeow ean NG215 they are many those sinning even though they know that they will die by it [Kayser: very many people are doing wrong even though they know they will be punished for them]

eat uda n õekeow Je 12:17 by the uprooting to destruction

ngona ita oad engame re timor eow ean, bwe ita oiyu annit engame 1Pe 3:20 1976 that craft a few people were saved by means of it, just eight human souls

a tük örädoan añen wan imin me a kataworidan ean NuwNT 57:5 I have already restored to him his things, and fourfold each by it

(d) when refering to a stationary condition associated with land, as ‘in (a land)’

Example:

ãita inen eteten agen ean eben Ägypten Ge 21:21 his mother contracted his wife in the land of Egypt

(e) associated with certain verbs, as ‘on’ -

Example:

atogi ean aworin aeiu oa? Jesus ouge a : A eo ouge aw, wo togi ean aworin aeiu, bwe wo togi ean aworin aemwo am kaworin aeiu Matt 18:22 1976 I end on seven times? Jesus said to him: I have not said to you, end on seven times but end on seventy your seven times each

(f) it can also be translated ‘for (the duration of)’ when associated with time -

Examples:

mequõr ian wõn bett ean aoju eobweni Ac 9:33 had lain in his bed for eight years

oquõrien ean araña eobweni Re 20:2 he was then bound for one thousand years

(g) It can also be translated as ‘out of, from’ (also atsin ea-) –

Examples:

ean NG75 out of

ṅabögene ibia eij ṅabögena re torereow ean NG211 this fishpond is that one that they stole from it [Kayser: this fishpond is the one which they stole from it]

Jakob eridan eat imijimij Ge 28:16 Jabob woke from sleep

ñabũna rõ õren akõdan eat ugo Ca 4:2 those ones who just now come up from the wash (sheep coming up from being washed)

an engel Gott emeta ea eow ean pwijet ãe inimaget imin erõ Ex 3:2 the angel of God come out to him out of the flames amidst the bush
ñabũna ra arak eat õrit arak Matt 4:24 those ones sickening from all kinds of illnesses

(h) As a partitive –

Examples:

aiju ean aeoq NG75 three on four/three out of four, three quarters

tsin iõ õrengo main ata ean, inan tik oñũen Is 6:13 if there remain a tenth part out of it, it will also be consumed

ñagan eat ibũm in rida, nan agen ijeget ãita ean amebũna aeiu? Matt 22:28 therefore on the day of resurrection, whose wife will that woman be out of those seven men?/which of those seven men will she be wife?

eirawoten aimaein ean mwiyimaoa maeit ekwan Rev 8:12 1976 one part out of those three parts of the sun/the third part of the sun was smitten

wo katamaedan ean aüra äwäw ñabüna ñaben aroöät añamä Nuw 43:5 take one each out of the staffs of the elders of the tribes of the people

(i) over –

ōd ean Jordan Jos 3:17 passed over the Jordan

52. Adposition /ea-/ ‘on’ with Possessive Suffixes:

	Singular	Dual		Trial		Plural	
1st Person	ea	EXC	eamar	EXC	eamei eameiy	EXC	eama
		INC	eadar eattar	INC	eadei eatteiy	INC	eada eatta
2nd Person	eam	eamũrõr eamuror		eamiei eamieiy		eamiã eamie	
3rd Person	ean	earõr earor		earei eareiy		eara	

69. Applicative Suffix /*–ei/-eij/-eiy/.*

The Applicative Suffix has several functions.

Some definitions of applicatives suffixes in other languages are

'apply X to it'

(see: Martin Haspelmath, Susanne Maria Michaelis and the APiCS Consortium. 2013. Applicative constructions. In: Michaelis, Susanne Maria & Maurer, Philippe & Haspelmath, Martin & Huber, Magnus (eds.) The atlas of pidgin and creole language structures. Oxford University Press - see https://wals.info/chapter/109)

or

'have X-ness applied', 'be subjected (by)' (i.e. have X applied to ...)

(see: Jukes, Anthony. 2019. A Grammar of Makasar page 306, in "Grammars and Sketches of the World's Languages Vol 10". Brill)

Examples:

(a) Expands a verb so that it can indicate the recipient of an action:

Example 12, taramawir, 'worship' + ei	>	taramawirei, 'worship someone/something'
Example 14, kamarar, 'think' + ei	>	kamararei, 'apply thought to a matter, think out a matter, conspire'

(b) verbalizes other classes of words:

auju 'eight' + eij	>	aujueij 'make eight' , 'apply eight to it' NG173
ion 'one (round) object + eij	>	ioneij 'make one round object', 'apply a round object to it' NG173
oror 'fence' + eij	>	ororei 'to fence in' NG173

70. /ion o/.

/ion o/ is the idiom for 'each one'.

71. Rhotic regressive assimilation.

This is a non-obligatory phonetic change whereby word-final /n/ is assimilated to a following /r/.

Example 235 /tubwi' robar/ 'the head of a dog'

Example 290 /iwũgaga' reijet tempel/ 'in the middle of the curtain of the temple'

72. Velar Nasal Intrusion.

In Example 53 /A nimõ wei añet ewak ion/ 'I must already build for him a house' we seen an exaple of Velar Nasal Intrusion.

Velar Nasal Intrusion is triggered where a verb that is governed by the adposition /ea, a/ is modified by the addition of the Perfective Aspect Suffix, the Perfective Aspect Suffix is shifted from the end of the verb to the end of the adposition some phonological changes take place :

In cases where the recipient of the action in 1st or 2nd Person Singular, the Perfective Aspect Suffix is attached directly to the adposition, i.e.:

V + ame + -en > V + amen

V + aw + -en > V + awen

In the case of the 3rd Person Singular, the Velar Nasal Infix occurs between the adposition and the Perfective Aspect Suffix, i.e.:

V + a + -en > V + angen

This pattern is followed with the Plural recipients, i.e.:

V + ea + kamuror + -en > V + angen kamuror

V + ea, a + uror + -en > V + angen uror

V + ea, a + ureiy + -en > V + angen ureiy

V + ea, a + ura + -en > V + angen ura

73. /bwe/ and /ngana/ after mental verbs and verbs of recording.

Both /bwe/ and /ngana/ appear as conjunctions after mental verbs and verbs of recording.

In Marshallese there are two conjunctions used (‘ke’ and ‘bwe’) which are used according to the following matrix:

Table 53. Parameters for usage of Marshallese conjunctions ‘bwe’ and ‘ke’ (adapted from Heather Willson’s ‘The Marshallese Complementizer Phrase’, 2002).

‘bwe’ Reportive Complimentizer	‘ke’ Presuppositional Complimentizer
A speaker uses a reportive complementizer when indirectly quoting an utterance or a mental process of him/herself or of someone else. The truth of this indirect quotation is not certain.	A speaker uses a presuppositional complimentizer when the information in the embedded clause is considered "old" or something the speaker already knows to be true.

Examples showing the overlap between the 1918 Bible and the 1976 New Testament. As a general observation, the conjunction 'bwe' is far more common with mental and recording verbs in the 1918 Bible.

Table 54. Overlap in usage of 'bwe' and 'ngana' with Nauruan mental and recording verbs 1918 Bible versus 1976 New Testament.

1918 Bible	1976 New Testament
bwa amwaim tsiet bwe etsimine waion Ñait eñame eat eb in etad dūra Matt 9:6 but you should know that the Son of Man has authority on earth for the forgiving [of] sins	bwe mwaim tied ngana etimine oaeon amea Ngait angame eow eat eb bwe nim ead idura Matt 9:6 1976 but you should know that the Son of Man has authority on earth that he may forgive sin
amwa tsiet bwe wañara temoniba heiden ri ta moniba eara Matt 20:25 you know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over over them	mwa ogiten tied ngana amebuna monibait engame re earangameiy engame Matt 20:25 1976 you have known that the rulers of the peoples they are harsh with the people
ama tsiet bwa auwe iduwen Matt 22:16 we know that you are true [truthful]	ama ogiten tied ngana wo pwat iduwen Matt 22:16 1976 we have known that you speak the truth
amwa tsiet bwe etũreten naga ibũm in kũñijow Matt 24:32 you know that the day of heat is about to draw near	mwa tidien ngaga ngana etureten bita edae in kungiyow Matt 24:32 1976 you already know that the time of heat is now drawing near
bwa A tsiet bwa amwar õni Jesu Matt 28:5 for I know that you two look for Jesus	a ogiten tied ngana mwar oreit onani amea Jesus Matt 28:5 1976 I have known that you two are looking for Jesus
ñaga Pharisãer rõ kaiõt bwõ õ õepoijien mwin amebũna Sadducãer, re ebwepon Matt 22:34 when the Pharisees heard that he had shut the mouths of the Saducees, they then gathered together	amebuna pharisea ngaga ro kaiyot ngana dimwa-woten mura ngabuna Sadducea, me re epwepwon Matt 22:34 1976 those Pharisees, when they heard that he had completely shut the mouth of the Saducees, they gathered together
ñag õ kaiõt bwe ei Jesu dei Ṇazareth, a aeuwak Mark 10:47 when he heard that it was Jesus the Nazarene, he cried out	ngaga amea kaiyot ngana eiy amea Jesus in Nazareth me yeida me kuridaw ituga Mark 10:47 1976 when the man heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he started and cried out

There are fewer instances where the 1918 Bible and the 1976 New Testament agree on the relativizer:

Table 55. Agreement in usage of 'bwe' and 'ngana' with Nauruan mental and recording verbs 1918 Bible versus 1976 New Testament.

1918 Bible	1976 New Testament
wo tsiet ñana Pharisãer ra ariwan ñaga rõ kaiõt mũñana eñõg? Matt 15:12 you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard those words?	wo tied ayok ngana egirowen ngabuna pharisea ngaga ro kaiyot mineiyina aem? Matt 15:12 1976 do you not know that the Pharisees have got angry when they heard that word of yours
A tsietuw bwa auwe Amea Togit Omo ñea wõn Gott Mark 1:24 I know of you that you are the Most Righteous One of God	A tied uw bwe awe yegen : amea Ebwigagain God Mark 1:24 1976 I know of you that you are who: the holy one of God
bwũ ũra memak re tsiet ñana dei Grecia etõñin Ac 16:3 for they all knew that his father was Greek	re tied ngana heidet etongin amea Ac 16:3 1976 they knew that his father was a Gentile
ñaga rõ kaiõt bwõ õ kakairũ a ũra ian kakairũ n Ebrãer Act 22:2 when they heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew language	ngaga ro kaiyot bwe torereiy a ura bita edorer ngea hebrew Ac 22:2 when they heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew language
eimwi bwa Abner enim ima tekei an ima ekabaãt? 2Sa3:33 should Abner die as a fool dieth?	A ũge ian bũriõ bwe eimwi bwa A nimõ ririñ imin ñan ebak in iwitsiow egen Jesu dei Nazareth Acts 26:9 I said in my heart (I was convinced) that it is right that I should do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth

74. Points of the Compass.

The translators of the 1918 Bible had a problem with the points of the compass as the pre-colonial Nauruans did not have the concept of a compass with its headings of N, S, E and W.

The traditional Nauruan travel was mainly along the cloast (NG222,223], and the direction was based on the traditional strike points of the trade wind, so you either travelled '*apwijuw*' or '*apwewa*'.

If you travelled inland, you went '*apoe*' (which seems to include the Nauruan word for the interior of the island, '*oe*'.

If you travelled from any place in the island to the sea, you travelled '*apago*'.

The 1918 Bible translators adapted the four Nauruan words listed above .

pwijuw:

The adverbial form is '*apwijuw*'. This seems to be formed of two elements, the adverbial '*a-, an-*', 'at, on, close by, bordering on' (NG195), and '*pwijuw*', which either historically or coincidentally contains the element *ijuw*. '*pwijuw'* is spelt *puijuw* by Kayser in *Nauru Grammar* .

pwijuw is the place in Ijuw District where in pre-colonial days there was an upright stone marker, as it was traditionally where the Easterly Trade Winds first struck (NG223)
Traditionally, if you travelled along the coast at any point from the stone marker at Yangor (Aiwo District) - i.e. *pwewa* - to the stone marker at *Ijuw*, you traveleld towards '*pwijuw*'.

The only exception was at Buada, where the term '*pwijuw*' had a different sense (see Kayser's directional map below).

The 1918 Bible translators used arbitrarily '*pwijuw*' for South. The 1976 New Testament uses the Englsih term South except on one occasion (Matt 12:42) when '*pwiyuw*' is used.

In *Nauru Grammar* there is one example:

rodu puijuw in aeae NG194 went east to see, go down (to) *pwijuw* to see

pwewa:

The adverbial form is 'apwewa'. This seems to be formed from two elements, the adverbial '*a-, an-*', 'at, on, close by, bordering on' (NG195), and '*pwewa*'. '*pwewa'* is recorded as *pawa* by Kayser in *Nauru Grammar*.

pwewa is the place in Yangor (Aiwo District) where in pre-colonial days there was an upright stone marker, as it was traditionally where where the Westerly Trade Winds first struck (NG223).

Traditionally, if you travelled along the coast at any point from the stone marker at Ijuw to the stone marker in Yangor, you travelled towars '*pwewa*'.

The only exception was at Buada, where the term '*pwewa*' had a different sense (see Kayser's directional map below).
The 1918 Bible translators arbitrarily used '*pwewa*' for North. The 1976 New Testament uses the English term North.

In *Nauru Grammar* there is are several examples:

apawam [sic] NG191 westward, west of
eṅin in pawa NG194 wind from the west, wind of *pawa*
äok inno pawa NG208 sets there in the west, is sets there (at) *pawa*
a öreita kanakani a amätimena eoniñ areij oñow pawa NG211 I am looking at the three boys there who are going west/going to *pawa*.

poe:

The adverbial form is '*apoe*'. This seems to be formed from two elements, the adverbial '*a-, an-*', 'at, on, close by, bordering on' (NG195), and '*poe'* , the inland part of Nauru, which seems to include the Nauruan word '*oe'*, the interior of the island.

The 1918 Bible translators arbitrarily used '*poe*' for East. The 1976 New Testament uses the English term East.

Nauru Grammar lists '*apoe*' once, with the gloss 'inland' (NG191).

The 1976 New Testament uses the phrase '*edogen ina edioda ekwan*', 'towards where the sun rises' once (Re 21:13).

apago:

The adverbial form is '*apago*'. This seems to be formed from two elements, the adverbial '*a-, an-*', 'at, on, close by, bordering on' (NG195), and '*pago'* , on the sea shore. This may historically include the word '*mago*', open sea.

The 1918 Bible translators arbitrarily used '*apago*' for West. The 1976 New Testament uses the English term West.

Nauru Grammar lists '*apago*' as 'on the seaward side of the island, at the beach' (NG191)
and gives possessive forms:

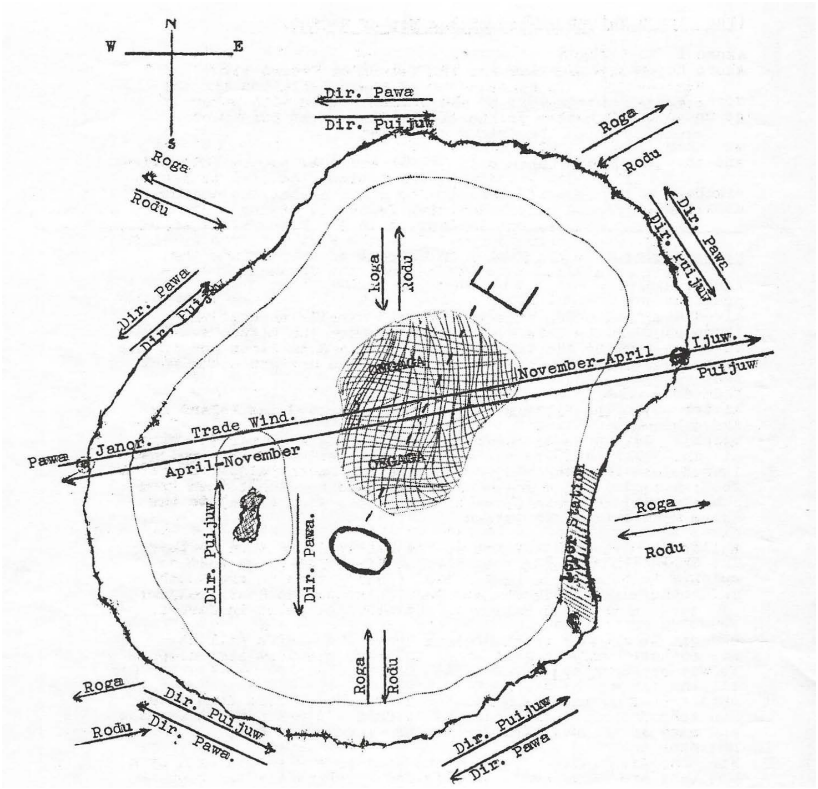
pago, on the sea side of me; *pagom*, on the sea side of you; *pagon*, on the sea side of him/her etc. (NG195)

The 1976 New Testament uses the phrase '*edogen ina eag ekwan*', 'towards where the sun sets' once (Re 21:13).

Camilla Wedgwood gives a different interpretation to '*apwijuw*' and '*apwewa*'. In her series of two articles in the journal Oceania, she states (part 1, page 370):

"On the eastern side stands a rather large outcrop of rock …at a place called Ganokoro [Ijuw District]. On the west coast, on the foreshore…is another place called Arijeijen[Denigomodu District] . These two spots mark the two important points of the compass, the place of sunrise and the place of sunset. To go in the direction of Ganokoro is *apwijuw* or eastwards; to go in the direction of Arijeijen is *apwewa* or westwards."

Map 3. Pre-Colonial Nauruan Directional Usage (from Kayser).



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